

Spain seeks new treaty

MADRID (AP) — Spain will tell America in November that it seeks to renegotiate the terms of its defense and cooperation pact, whether the pact is reached or not in stalled troop reduction talks, a Foreign Ministry official said Saturday. The five-year agreement is due to expire in May. Ministry spokesman Innocencio Arias told reporters Spain wants to maintain a Spanish-U.S. treaty, "but not exactly a renewal of the current one; rather there is a part of the treaty that has to be modified." Arias did not elaborate which part. The government of socialist Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, however, has in the past criticized limits on Spanish control over the 10,000 U.S. troops in Spain at three joint-use air bases, a naval station and communication stations. Political observers believe the U.S. Congress decision to reduce U.S. military aid to \$105 million for fiscal year 1988 from \$113 million in 1987 and \$415 million in 1986 also influenced the Gonzalez government's position. Spanish-American negotiations to reduce the U.S. military presence in Spain are stalled after six rounds of talks initiated in July of last year.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي

Ethiopia ready for talks with Sudan

CAIRO (R) — Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam is ready to meet Sudanese leaders to settle differences between them. Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak said on Saturday. In remarks to reporters on his return from visits to Ethiopia and Oman, Mr. Mubarak said Mr. Mengistu was willing to meet Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi at any time. "Such issues cannot be solved unless Mengistu and Mahdi hold more than one meeting in an atmosphere of flexibility from both sides," Mr. Mubarak said. Such talks would settle outstanding problems between Sudan and Ethiopia with or without Egypt's presence, Mr. Mubarak, who has previously mediated between the two, said. "What is important for us is for Sudan to solve its problems and have good relations with Ethiopia," he said. "If these problems continue, we fear the consequences." Ethiopia and Sudan have each accused the other of helping rebels in each other's territories.

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Cabinet debates civil service code

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Saturday held a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai during which a comprehensive discussion of the new civil service code took place. It was decided during the meeting that some articles of the new code be amended and that a further session for final review would be held Sunday.

Dajani meets Arab council chief

AMMAN (Petra) — Interior Minister Rajai Al Dajani on Saturday received Dr. Akram Nashaat, secretary general of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers. Dr. Nashaat is visiting Jordan to take part in a conference of heads of Arab security departments. The meeting opens in Amman on Tuesday. Mr. Dajani and Dr. Nashaat discussed topics to be covered during the conference.

Li voices support for Mideast conference

PEKING (Petra) — Chinese President Li Xianmin has voiced his country's support for efforts to bring an end to the Middle East problem through an international peace conference to be attended by all concerned parties. President Li was speaking at a meeting with member of the Upper House of Parliament Bahjat Talhouti with whom he reviewed developments in the Gulf conflict and current efforts to end the war between Iran and Iraq. Mr. Talhouti praised China's support for Arab causes and its efforts to bring an end to the Gulf war. Mr. Talhouti is on an 11-day visit to China at the invitation of the Chinese Friendship Society.

Israeli says Moscow wants radio links

TEL AVIV (AP) — Soviet radio officials have proposed the first-ever cooperation between a Soviet station and Israel Radio, a radio official here said Friday. Zvi Yisraeli, an editor at Israel Radio, said officials at Moscow Radio made the suggestion to an Israeli correspondent currently visiting the Soviet capital. The Moscow station airs Hebrew-language broadcasts that reach Israel. The Soviet proposal included cooperation on interviews in the two countries and program exchanges, Yisraeli said. He said Israel Radio officials were considering the idea.

Reggae star shot dead

KINGSTON (AP) — Robbers shot and killed reggae star Peter Tosh and another man at the singer-songwriter's home and wounded his wife and four other people, police said Saturday. The slaying shocked this city where reggae was born. It leaves alive just one of the three original leading members of the Wailers, who popularized the vibrant, music of revolution characterized by its loping beat. "Peter Tosh gave to Jamaica and the world an unforgettable library of musical works which will be played and sung by many generations of people," former Prime Minister Michael Manley said. Prime Minister Edward Seaga extended his condolences to Tosh's family and friends.

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Iranian leaders show no sign of willingness to honour U.N. call

Velayati and Khamenei, in talks with Perez de Cuellar, reiterate demand that Iraq be named 'aggressor'

Baghdad and Tehran accuse each other of shelling border towns and cities.

Combined agency dispatches

UNITED Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar opened on Saturday talks with Iranian leaders in Tehran on a Gulf war ceasefire as Iraq and Iran accused each other of shelling border towns and cities.

In talks with Mr. Perez de Cuellar, Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati reiterated Tehran's demand that Iraq must be branded the "aggressor" in the war if the U.N. chief's peace mission was to have any chance of success, according to the official Iranian media.

A U.N. spokesman said in New York that Mr. Perez de Cuellar had several rounds of talks with Mr. Velayati and also conferred with Prime Minister Mir Hussein Mousavi. The spokesman described the talks as "very detailed and very cordial," but could not provide any substantive details. As the talks proceeded, centred on a July 20 U.N. ceasefire call, Baghdad said Iran continued to shell border communities Saturday morning, after 36 people were killed and 158 wounded in bombardments Thursday night and Friday morning.

A Tehran spokesman, quoted by the national news agency IRNA, described the Iraqi report as "pure fabrication." He said Iran had halted "reprisal attacks" on economic and industrial sites in Iraq since late Thursday as a mark of respect for the U.N. chief.

IRNA said 13 people were killed or wounded when Iraqi artillery shelled the northwestern border town of Sardasht several times on Saturday.

Iran did say late Saturday, however, that there had been artillery duels between combatants of the two sides along the warfront during the past 24 hours. The nightly war communiqué said Iraqi troops suffered a number of casualties.

Iraq said Iranian artillery shelled the "southern port city of Basra, killing five civilians and wounding seven others."

Mr. Velayati, widely regarded as one of the most pragmatic of Tehran's leaders, made clear that Iran would not accept a ceasefire in the seven-year-old war "until justice has been done," IRNA said.

It was Mr. Perez de Cuellar's first session with Iranian leaders since he arrived in Tehran Friday night.

After an initial meeting with Mr. Velayati on Friday, Mr. Perez de Cuellar said he was sure Iran would comply with the council request.

He added that a "serene atmosphere" was necessary for his talks with both sides.

The Iraqi news agency quoted a military communiqué as saying that apart from Basra, the northern city of Sulaimaniyah and six other towns were also shelled Saturday.

"Tehran found nothing to receive the U.N. chief with but the bombardment of residential areas, killing women and children and destroying civilian houses," the Iraqi communiqué said.

The communiqué said the shelling "is new proof of Iran's unwillingness to cooperate with the U.N. secretary-general's peace mission." But it made no mention of Iraq's shelling of Basra.

(Continued on page 3)

China restates support for U.N. resolution on Gulf

PEKING (Agencies) — Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang reiterated China's support of a United Nations resolution for a ceasefire in the seven-year Gulf war in remarks to a senior Iraqi leader on Saturday.

"China resolutely supports... an overall implementation of Resolution No. 598 of the U.N. Security Council for an early end to the Iran-Iraq war," the state-run Xinhua News Agency quoted Mr. Zhao as telling Saadoun Hammadi, president of Iraq's National Assembly, at a meeting late Saturday.

He said the resolution laid a good foundation for bringing about an end to the war, adding that China "will spare no efforts to help U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar with his work."

Mr. Perez de Cuellar is currently visiting Iran and Iraq in an attempt to bring about an end to the conflict.

"The resolution reflects the hope of the international community. We accept this resolution," Mr. Hammadi was quoted as saying, but added that the resolution should be implemented completely.

Mr. Hammadi is in China at the same time as Iran's First Deputy Foreign Minister Ali

Mohammad Besharati. Delegations from the two countries arrived in Peking Thursday to present their positions about recent efforts to end the war.

Mr. Hammadi was expected to seek support from the Chinese government for a possible U.N. arms embargo on Iran, but the Xinhua report did not say if that was discussed.

Official Chinese newspapers said Saturday China treats both Iran and Iraq as friends and hopes the two countries will end their war.

Two separate reports in the Communist Party newspaper People's Daily stressed that China would tread a middle path.

"Both Iraq and Iran are our friends. The war has been going on for seven years and its continuation will do harm to both Iran and Iraq," Peng Zhen, head of the National People's Congress, told Mr. Hammadi on Friday.

China had always been strictly neutral in the Gulf war and had spared no efforts to seek a just, peaceful and political settlement, Peng said.

Premier Zhao told Mr. Besharati on Friday that China supported Mr. Perez de Cuellar's peace mission and implementation of Resolution 598.

Irangate suspect held in Italy

TURIN (AP) — A Swiss man accused of arms trafficking has been arrested on a U.S. warrant that police said could link him to the U.S.-Iran arms scandal, authorities said Saturday.

Sources in the Turin police department, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Walther Demuth, 63, of Berne, was arrested at the Jolly Hotel Ligure by Digos anti-terrorism police before dawn Tuesday. His arrest was disclosed Saturday.

An international arrest warrant issued Aug. 20, 1986 by U.S. judicial authorities in New York investigating the illegal arms trade, charges him with illegal commerce of military materials and defrauding the American government, police said.

Mr. Demuth is head of a Swiss company dealing in arms and civilian aircraft identified as Helitrade, according to the police report. Police said he was currently involved in selling five second-hand French planes to Iran. The police sources said Mr.

Demuth was believed to be connected with the U.S.-Iran arms scandal, but no further details were available about that purported link.

Police said they were examining "very important" documents found on Mr. Demuth concerning arms deals, and sought to determine whether he had committed any alleged crimes in Italy before considering the American extradition request.

U.S. and Italian judicial officials were scheduled to meet Monday at the Turin court of appeals to discuss the case, police added.

Neither Helitrade officials or Swiss authorities could be reached for comment Saturday.

In a report last July, the Swiss tabloid Sonntagsblick linked Mr. Demuth to Iran arms dealing. The paper published what it said were documents describing Helitrade's attempt to ship 1,250 TOW anti-tank missiles falsely declared as forklifts to Tehran for \$7.5 million.

Libya and Iran said ready to discuss Gulf peace

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has agreed to talks suggested by Tehran on ways to end the Iran-Iraq war, the Libyan news agency JANA said Saturday.

The agency, monitored in Beirut, said Colonel Qadhafi had already sent an envoy to Tehran to explain his views on the seven-year-old war.

The JANA report follows a visit this week to Iraq by Libya's foreign minister, Jaddallah Azouzi Al Tahli. During the visit, Tripoli and Baghdad agreed to restore diplomatic relations after a two-year break, a Libyan official in Kuwait said.

Western diplomats in the Gulf saw the rapprochement between Libya and Iraq as further isolating Iran, after Tripoli's strong support for Tehran earlier in the war (See page 2).

JANA said on Saturday, however, Col. Qadhafi had received "an encouraging and positive reply from the Iranian leadership on the necessity to put an end to the war."

"He agreed to an Iranian suggestion for a bilateral dialogue to achieve this goal," JANA reported.

In a report by its news agency IRNA received in London, Iran made no mention of the talks.

But IRNA said President Ali Khamenei briefed Iran's Tripoli ambassador during home leave on Saturday on "the further expansion of Tehran-Tripoli ties."

Tehran has not commented on the Libyan-Iraqi rapprochement but Tehran Radio said Friday that Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri, the designated successor to revolutionary patriarch Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, met with the Libyan charge d'affaires in the Iranian capital to discuss "developments in the Iran-Iraq war."

In a joint statement issued after Mr. Tahli's visit to Baghdad, Libya and Iraq called for an immediate end to the Gulf war. Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has in recent months criticised Tehran for rejecting bids to end the war.

GCC opens Jeddah talks with call on Iran to accept ceasefire

BAHRAIN (R) — Foreign Ministers of Gulf Arab countries opened a meeting on the Iran-Iraq war on Saturday with a call on Tehran to accept a U.N. demand for a ceasefire.

The chairman of the meeting in Jeddah, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Abdullah Rashid, also condemned missile attacks against Kuwait last week.

The ministers from the six members states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) met as U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar started talks in Tehran in a bid to persuade Iran to accept a July 20 U.N. call for a ceasefire in its war with Iraq.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE and Oman.

The current chairman of the GCC, UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan, said in Rabat on Friday that failure of Mr. Perez de Cuellar's mission "should prompt the Arabs to take prompt and effective action to halt the Iran-Iraq war and defuse tension in the area before it is too late."

The UAE news agency WAM also quoted him as saying in a meeting with Morocco's King Hassan that the U.N. ceasefire resolution was important as it embodied the political will of the nations of the world.

The Saudi Press Agency said the GCC ministers in Jeddah would discuss the Gulf situation, especially the missile attacks on Kuwait.

Kuwait has blamed Iran for the attacks. Tehran has denied responsibility.

In other diplomatic moves, Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak discussed the war with Oman's Sultan Qaboos during a two-day visit to Muscat before leaving for home on Saturday.

An Iranian assistant foreign minister also delivered a message on Saturday to Qatar's ruler, Sheikh Khalifah Ibn Hamad Al Thani, after earlier visits to Oman and the UAE.

WAM said a senior Iranian envoy discussed the United Nations ceasefire order with UAE Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammed Ibn Rashid Al Maktoum on Saturday.

It said the minister reaffirmed at his meeting with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati "the UAE's firm stand which calls for a peaceful end to the bloody conflict between Iran and Iraq."

The UAE had good relations with both Baghdad and Tehran. Newspaper editorials in Gulf Arab states expressed strong scepticism about Mr. Perez de Cuellar's chances for success in his peace mission.

"The secretary-general's bargaining position is not strong," said the Dubai-based English-language Khaleej Times. "The odds are not good."

TASS slams Shultz' stand on missile pact

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The official Soviet news agency TASS on Saturday accused U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz of seeking to blame Moscow if top-level talks in Washington failed to produce a superpower arms control treaty.

Mr. Shultz said on Friday that Moscow had created new obstacles to a proposed pact abolishing medium- and shorter-range missiles worldwide, but TASS reacted by saying Washington's stand on the "double zero option" was illogical because it involved no zero.

"What is Washington's logic, if it may be called so, all about?" TASS said in a commentary on the eve of the departure for Washington of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

It said Washington had rejected a Soviet demand that it scrap all Pershing-1A warheads on U.S. territory as well as in West Germany by claiming it was

Ramadan criticises Soviet Union for making approaches to Iran

ABU DHABI (AP) — A Senior Iraqi official has publicly criticised the Soviet Union for making approaches to Iran, the Al Itihad daily reported Saturday.

It quoted Taha Yassin Ramadan, Iraq's deputy premier, as accusing Moscow in an interview of being "complacent" regarding a proposed international arms embargo in an effort to appease Iran.

"Moscow is convinced the continuation of the Gulf war would not serve its interests in the region. But its courtesy to Iran is part of the rivalry between the superpowers to gain a foothold in Iran," Mr. Ramadan was quoted as saying.

Mr. Ramadan said Iraq refuses to pay the price of such rivalry. Relations between Moscow and Tehran have warmed in recent months, even though Moscow is bound to Iraq by a friendship treaty and is Baghdad's main arms supplier.

The Iraqi media have been

critical of Moscow for this rapprochement in recent weeks. But Mr. Ramadan's remarks were the first official criticism along those lines, diplomatic sources said.

Alexander Galitsyn, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Gulf section, was quoted by Kuwait's Al Anhaa daily Friday as saying Moscow supported "in principle" an arms embargo against the country that rejects the United Nations Security Council's July 20 resolution for a ceasefire.

Iraq has said it will comply with the resolution if Iran does. But Tehran has neither accepted nor rejected it.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived in Tehran Friday night for talks and was scheduled to visit Baghdad Monday to seek agreement for a ceasefire.

Mr. Ramadan also said Iraq "believes Iran's future is linked to the West and not the Soviet Union," he said.

"That is what we keep saying to our friends in Moscow," he added.

Mr. Ramadan, referring to what he called "continuous" Iranian-American contact, said: "This is no surprise for Iraq... we believe it won't be discontinued."

Mr. Ramadan said Baghdad had formally informed the Soviet Union of its stand regarding Moscow's approaches to Iran.

Al Itihad said Mr. Ramadan stressed that Iraq would reject any attempt to make a distinction between the conflict as a whole and the so-called tanker war.

Iraq will not adhere to any resolution to this effect "even if issued by the Security Council," he said.

"Those who call for separation between securing freedom of navigation in the Gulf and the Iran-Iraq war have no good intention towards Iraq, as navigation in the Gulf is part of the war," he said.

N'djamena's charges raise serious doubts on chances of Chad-Libya peace

NDJAMENA (R) — Chad has again accused Libya of violating a ceasefire agreement, raising doubts that the end of their border war is in sight.

Two brief broadcasts from official Chad Radio on Friday said Libyan war planes had bombed Wour and Ounianga, in northern Chad, saying its last air raids there were carried out on 0945 GMT on Friday.

A Chadian embassy spokesman in Paris had said the bombings took place more than one hour after the ceasefire was due to take effect.

In its second radio broadcast on Friday night, Chad said Libya has carried out another air raid against the northwest town of Bardai sometime in the afternoon.

Libya had not reacted to the second accusation by Saturday evening and Chad reported no further air raids on Saturday.

The Libyan air force has carried out almost daily bombings on northern Chad localities since President Hissene Habre in early August launched an attempt to recapture the 110,000-square-kilometre Aouzou strip annexed by Libya in 1973.

But Mr. Habre has come under strong pressure from France and his hitherto sympathetic African allies to negotiate Aouzou's future after his troops made their first incursion across the internationally recognised border with Libya a week ago and French soldiers shot down a Libyan warplane over N'djamena on Monday.

The three-man crew of the Tupolev-22 bomber were killed. It was the first time French troops, who have been defending Chad since 1983, were directly responsible for the death of Libyans, raising fears of a direct confrontation between Libya and France.

French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac has welcomed the ceasefire agreement, saying Paris had always favoured a negotiated settlement.

OAU Chairman Kenneth Kaunda has invited Mr. Habre and Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi to Zambia in two weeks' time to discuss the territorial dispute. But neither has responded.

for all major announcements. Nor did it say whether Chad planned to retaliate.

Libya on Saturday denied the first charge that its planes had violated the ceasefire by bombing Wour and Ounianga, in northern Chad, saying its last air raids there were carried out on 0945 GMT on Friday.

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Tlas promises 'good news soon' on Waite

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria's Defence Minister, Lieutenant-General Mustafa Tlas, told Gen. Tlas for Syrian President Hafez Al Assad asking the Damascus government to intensify efforts to free Mr. Waite.

In a related development, West German Foreign Minister Heinz Deitrich Genscher telephoned President of Syria on Friday to thank him for Syria's help in freeing German hostage Alfred Schmidt, the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported.

The official agency said had also written to Mr. Assad expressing the Bonn government's gratitude for Syrian efforts in securing Mr. Schmidt's release.

The German engineer was freed Monday by his pro-Iranian captors in Beirut. He was kidnapped in Lebanon Jan. 20.

In London, the British Foreign Office said on Saturday it might never know whether a ransom

was paid to free Mr. Schmidt. A spokesman told Reuters: "Who knows what went on behind the scenes but we may well never know any more than we do now."

He was commenting on a report in Saturday's edition of the British newspaper the Independent that British, U.S. and French officials believed a ransom was paid for Mr. Schmidt.

The Beirut magazine Al Shiraa reported on Friday that \$2 million was paid for Mr. Schmidt's release.

The Independent quoted diplomatic sources as saying they believed \$3 million would be paid to the kidnappers, a group called the Freedom Strugglers, when a second West German, Rudolf Cordes, was released.

The paper said British officials believed a group of private West German individuals raised the money.

announcement soon of a date for a superpower summit

An Assistant Secretary of State Rozanne Ridgway told reporters there had been no U.S.-Soviet discussions on a summit since last April and U.S. officials would not raise the issue when Mr. Shevardnadze arrived on Sunday for talks with Mr. Shultz and President Reagan.

Mr. Reagan's invitation to Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev to come to the United States for their third summit remained open and "it is for the general secretary to decide when he will come... it's pretty much their call," Ms. Ridgway said.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater was similarly guarded. "We have not received any assurances that this meeting will produce a summit announcement," he said.

"That's not the purpose of the meeting," Fitzwater told reporters. "I wouldn't count on it."

enough to destroy the missiles. "Leaving any of these elements undestroyed means retaining part of the potential which will then be easier to restore," it said.

"Washington is set on ensuring itself a completely free hand after the conclusion of a double zero option accord."

TASS said U.S. officials were inconsistent when they argued that the Pershing warheads were small and therefore difficult to count because the Reagan administration had been talking about the need to count warheads for years.

Quoting Mr. Shultz as saying no one knew how many warheads either side had in storage, it countered that Moscow had proposed exchanging detailed data and allowing verification before the destruction of missiles and warheads began.

"Might it be that the U.S. State Department has doubts about something else, namely whether

the Pentagon will allow it, let alone the Soviet Union, to know how many medium-range and shorter-range missiles the U.S. military has?" it said.

TASS said Mr. Shultz had no grounds for questioning Soviet seriousness about wanting to conclude an accord. But it said other questions could be raised, notably: "What is a 'global double zero' Washington-style if in fact there isn't a zero?"

It suggested that pressure from "American quarters that want no agreements with the Soviet Union" could be causing the U.S. administration to move away from an accord before Mr. Shevardnadze's three days of talks with Mr. Shultz open on Tuesday.

Even as Mr. Shultz and other U.S. officials on Friday expressed optimism that remaining differences on the proposed missile pact could be resolved, they played down chances for an

announcement soon of a date for a superpower summit.

Amal, Palestinians agree to end Lebanon camps war

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Palestinian commandos have agreed to withdraw from positions they conquered in South Lebanon in return for peace with Shi'ite Muslim militiamen who had tried for two years to block the resurgence of the PLO in the country, a newspaper reported Saturday.

It said the agreement was reached during a meeting in Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon, among senior officers from Amal, the dominant Syrian-backed Lebanese Shi'ite faction, and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) main factions.

The meeting Friday brought Amal and Fateh, the mainstream PLO faction, together for the first time since the Shi'ites launched their crackdown in May 1985 to halt the recreation of a PLO power base in Lebanon.

The two largest Palestinian groups, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, also were present.

A statement released at the end of the meeting and published by Beirut's daily An Nahar and

other newspapers said the Palestinian commandos have agreed to withdraw from strategic hilltop positions they conquered last year east and south of Sidon.

In return, Amal would ease its siege of camps in Beirut to allow reconstruction work in the shantytowns.

The statement also said both Amal and the Palestinians would release detainees abducted in tit-for-tat kidnappings in Beirut and South Lebanon during the 28-month feud.

The statement did not mention a deadline for implementing the accord, but An Nahar said the Palestinians were expected to begin their pullback into camps near Sidon on Oct. 5.

The Palestinians, the An Nahar said, would hand over their positions east of Sidon to militiamen from the so-called Unification and Liberation Front, a loose alliance of Syrian-backed

Lebanese factions which includes Amal and leftist groups that have good relations with the PLO.

By police count, 1,600 people have been killed and 3,600 wounded in what has become known as the camps war. The Sabra refugee camp in Beirut has been demolished and the other two, Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh, have been badly damaged.

Fighting between Amal and Palestinian fighters broke out last November.

Amal blockaded the Beirut camps of Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh and the Rasidiyeh camp in Tyre.

Last April Syrian troops took up positions in and around the two Beirut camps, which house about 33,000 refugees, and Amal said it lifted its siege.

Palestinian women and children were then able to leave the camps to buy food after months when many people had been close to starvation. But Palestinians say men are still not able to leave.

A 7,000-strong Syrian force entered West Beirut in February with the aim of ending fighting between militias and restoring law and order.

Senators urge Reagan against arms sales to Riyadh

WASHINGTON (AP) — Five senators have told President Ronald Reagan that renewed attempts to sell modern weapons to Saudi Arabia would force a confrontation between Congress and the White House.

"We do not believe it wise to reward Saudi behaviour, which has so frequently harmed U.S. national security interests, with another sale of sophisticated arms," the senators said in a letter to the president.

The letter said the Saudis have not given substantial assistance to U.S. forces attempting to keep Gulf sea lanes open or done enough to achieve peace in the region. It also criticised the Saudis for providing money to "terrorist organisations like the PLO," the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

"A new, and we believe unwarranted, Saudi arms request would force an unnecessary and unproductive confrontation between Congress and the White House," the letter said. "We feel constrained to oppose it vigorously."

Signing the letter were Republican Senators Robert Packwood, Alphonse D'Amato and Frank Lautenberg, and opposition Democrats Dennis DeConcini and Alan Cranston.

In another development, Israeli Ambassador Moshe Arad registered Israeli objections to any new U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia or other Arab nations officially at war with Israel.

He told an audience at the National Press Club such deals endanger Israel's security and don't help Saudi Arabia deal with its security problems.

The Reagan administration pulled back a proposal for a substantial sale of Maverick anti-tank missiles and other weapons after a report that the Saudi Air Force did not aid the USS Stark.

The administration said the sale request was ill-timed.

Administration officials said on Aug. 17 that Congress would be asked to approve the sale of additional American weapons to Saudi Arabia, but that the timing and presentation remained under discussion.

Senate majority leader Robert Byrd said earlier Friday that he discussed possible arms sale proposals on Thursday with Secretary of State George Shultz. Sen. Byrd declined to identify the countries involved or to say what weapons might be sold.

Administration sources have said the \$1 billion arms package for Saudi Arabia is expected to include 1,600 Maverick anti-tank missiles, 14 of the latest F-15 jet fighters, improvements to an earlier F-15 model already in Saudi hands, and other weaponry.

Libya's tilt towards Iraq further isolates Iran

KUWAIT (R) — A rapprochement between Libya and Iraq has further isolated Iran in the Arab World and may boost Arab support for Tripoli in its conflict with Chad, Arab and Western diplomats said on Saturday.

The restoration of diplomatic ties between Libya and Iraq after a two-year break was sealed during a visit to Baghdad this week by Libyan Secretary for Foreign Liaison (Foreign Minister) Jadhaf Azzouzi Al Talhi.

Diplomats said the move stemmed from Libya's anger over reports of Iranian arms deals with Israel and the United States and from its quest for Arab backing after embarrassing military reverses in Chad earlier this year.

A joint communique said the two countries agreed to establish brotherly relations and strengthen ties in all fields. It also called for an immediate end to the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

Hassana Shawsh, head of the Libyan People's Bureau (embassy) in Kuwait, told Reuters that envoys would be exchanged at ambassadorial level and embassies opened in both capitals soon.

"The announcement of brotherly Arab relations is stronger than the mere restoration of diplomatic ties. We consider these ties open as of last Thursday," he said.

Syria, Iran's main Arab ally and the only Arab state without ties with Baghdad, would now come under pressure to follow Libya's example, the diplomats said.

Libya forged a strategic alliance with Iran in 1985 based on their uncompromising rejection of Israel and the United States, with whom tension was then mounting.

But reports late last year that Iran had secretly bought arms from Israel and the United States infuriated Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, the diplomats said.

Col. Qadhafi's Arab nationalist sensibility was also offended by Iran's occupation of Iraq's Fao peninsula in early 1986 and its push toward the southern Iraqi city of Basra earlier this year.

"The Jamahiriyya (Libya) rejects any danger threatening the Arab World," Mr. Shawsh said. Libya joined other states at an

Arab foreign ministers' meeting in late 1986 in condemning Iran's occupation of Iraqi territory.

March Col. Qadhafi described the Iran-Iraq war "crazy" and implicitly criticised Iran's refusal to discuss peace.

Libya then held secret talks with Iraq through Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) intermediaries as part of a larger opening to other Arab states which coincided with the retreat of Libyan forces in Chad.

Libya has also stretched out its arms this year to the PLO and to neighbouring Algeria and Tunisia.

Diplomats said the moves were designed to overcome isolation highlighted by last year's U.S. raids on Tripoli and Benghazi and to win support for Libyan claims to the Aouzou Strip on its border with Chad.

Libya's diplomatic position had been enhanced because recent fighting with Chad took place well inside Libya, enabling Tripoli to say it was defending Arab land, they said.

Chad said this week its forces

had attacked and destroyed the southern Libyan airbase of Maatani As Sarra with heavy loss of life. Kuwait among other Arab states condemned the raid.

Libya had virtually no support among Arabs when its troops were stationed inside undisputed Chadian territory.

The diplomats said they expected Libya would maintain its ties with Iran, although maybe on a smaller scale.

"Our relations with Iran are good and will continue, but not at the expense of the Arab nation," said Mr. Shawsh.

Iraq and Western states have accused Libya in the past of selling Soviet arms to Iran and the United States said on Friday Iran was trying to obtain sophisticated anti-ship mines from Tripoli.

Mr. Shawsh said Libya's rapprochement with Iraq was a step towards fulfilling Col. Qadhafi's vision of a union of Arab states.

"We hope we can enter a new stage of joint Arab effort along the lines of an Arab union proposed by Qadhafi," he said.

3 Soviet, 1 French navy ships bound for Gulf sail down Suez Canal

ISMAILIYA, Egypt (Agencies) — Three Soviet and one French military vessels bound for the Gulf region sailed down the Suez Canal on Saturday.

The Soviet union led a south-bound convoy of 26 ships from Port Said, at the northern end of the waterway, according to canal officials who spoke anonymously under operating rules.

The officials identified the Soviet vessels as a minesweeper, a submarine and a tug boat. They said the ships displayed no names, and none were given to the Suez Canal authority.

Only hull numbers were visible on the ships — 913 on the minesweeper, 84 on the submarine and 36 on the tug boat. Western military sources in Moscow say the Soviet Navy changes the numbers on its ships every one or two years.

Canal officials said the Soviets gave the destination of their ships as the Gulf region.

The officials said the French vessel in the convoy was the Loire, a 2,500-ton mine-hunting support vessel. It left France's northern port of Brest on Aug.

31, and French naval sources said then it would replace the support ship Garonne in France's Gulf contingent.

France has sent three minehunters to the Gulf to join in an international effort to clear its navigation lanes of explosives.

Two French minesweepers were spotted just outside the entrance to the Gulf on Friday, with one of the vessels actively dragging for mines.

A photographer who saw the minesweepers from a helicopter said they were accompanied by a French support vessel.

France sent the minehunters Garigliano, Cantho and Vinh-Long to clear mines outside the Gulf as the maritime overspill of the Iran-Iraq war threatened shipping.

Mines were found last month in a busy shipping area in the Gulf of Oman off the emirate of Fujairah. Mines have also developed into a major threat within the Gulf itself.

The United States has mine-sweeping Sea Stallion helicopters scouring the Gulf after undertaking to escort Kuwaiti tankers re-

flagged under the Stars and Stripes through the waterway to protect them from possible Iranian attack.

The Pentagon is also sending six ocean-going minesweepers to the Gulf to join some 34 American warships already in the area.

Four British mine-warfare vessels are due in the Gulf by mid-September, while The Netherlands and Italy are dispatching similar vessels.

The Soviet Union also has minesweepers operating in the waterway. A Soviet tanker and a reflagged Kuwaiti supertanker struck mines on their way to Kuwait in May and last month respectively.

In Rome, Italian Defence Minister Valerio Zanone announced Friday the naval task force assigned to protect Italian shipping in the Gulf will set sail for the region on Tuesday.

The mission will begin only after a confidence vote in parliament this weekend and following U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's visit to Iran and Iraq, he said.

Orthodox Jews hold streetside prayer vigil

TEL AVIV (AP) — More than a thousand ultra-orthodox Jews staged streetside prayer vigils throughout occupied Jerusalem on Saturday to press their demands that the city shut all entertainment houses on the Jewish Sabbath.

But some devotionals broke into the screaming, bottle-throwing demonstrations that have

been dubbed the "Sabbath wars." Protesters tried to block traffic on major streets and yelled "shabbos," or Yiddish for the holy Sabbath day.

Police later arrested one youth who was throwing stones at officers, Israel Radio said.

Helmets police swinging clubs threw tear gas canisters and fired water cannons to force the

ultra-orthodox behind metal waist-high barriers.

The ultra-orthodox, who make up about 25 per cent of Jerusalem's population of 335,000, oppose driving, going to restaurants or movies, and most other activity on Shabbat, which lasts from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday.

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITION
* An exhibition of plastic art by Mohammad Ali Kewani at the Housing Bank Gallery (until Sept. 15).

FILM

* Soviet film week, at the Jerusalem Hotel, 6-8 p.m. (until Sept. 14).

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre ... Tel. 640226
American Centre ... 644371
American Centre Library ... 641520
British Council ... 636178
French Cultural Centre ... 637008
Goethe Institute ... 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre ... 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre ... 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre ... 639777
Haya Arts Centre ... 661895
Y.W.C.A. ... 667803
Y.W.M.C.A. ... 642521
Amman Municipal Library ... 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library ... 643555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays). 10:00 a.m. in 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabel Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. 63201-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:15 Agaba (RJ)
10:15 Cairo (RJ)
10:30 Kuwait (RJ)
10:30 Jordan (RJ)
10:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:00 London (RJ)
11:30 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
11:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
11:30 Brussels, Geneva (RJ)
11:30 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
11:30 Paris (RJ)
11:30 Frankfurt (RJ)
11:30 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
11:30 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:55 Berlin, Larnaca (JF)
11:00 Rome, Damascus (AZ)
12:00 Baghdad (IA)
12:45 Kuwait (RJ)
13:30 Cairo (MS)
13:30 Jeddah (SV)
13:40 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Jeddah (GF)
14:35 Kuwait (RJ)
15:30 Dubai (EK)
17:35 Athens (OA)
19:10 Frankfurt (LH)
09:40 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)
05:00 Madrid (RJ)
06:00 Agaba (RJ)
12:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:30 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
13:30 Cairo (RJ)
14:30 Kuwait (RJ)
14:30 Dubai, Moscow (RJ)
16:55 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
18:00 Baghdad (RJ)
18:00 Larnaca (RJ)
18:00 Cairo (RJ)
18:00 Damascus (RJ)
22:30 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
23:00 Bangkok (RJ)

FOR THE TRAVELLER

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:20 Frankfurt (LH)
06:20 Damascus, Paris (AF)
09:30 Beirut (ME)
10:30 Rome (AZ)
11:20 Larnaca, Berlin (JF)
12:50 Rome (AZ)
13:40 Baghdad (IA)
14:00 Tripoli (LN)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
14:45 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (GF)
15:00 Jeddah (SV)
15:35 Kuwait (RJ)
16:30 Dubai (EK)
18:20 Athens (OA)
20:00 Sana'a (LH)

PRAYER TIMES

05:01 Fajr
06:27 Sunrise (Summer)
12:32 Dhuhr
16:01 Asr
20:43 Maghreb
20:43 Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in J.O.D.
Belgian franc 100 J.O.D. 171.1
Dutch guilder 100 J.O.D. 171.1
French franc 100 J.O.D. 171.1
Italian lira 100 J.O.D. 26.4
Japanese yen (for 100) 236.6 / 239.7
Swedish crown 33.5 / 34.1
Swiss franc 227.3 / 230.4
U.K. sterling pound 559.4 / 564.6
U.S. dollar 340.3 / 344.2
W. German mark 188.3 / 190.9

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be fine, with slight increase in temperature and northerly light winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.
Min./max. temp.
Amman 17 / 30
Agaba 22 / 35
Deserts 17 / 35
Jordan Valley 24 / 36
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27, Agaba 33.5, Humidity readings: Amman 45 per cent, Agaba 30 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Qamashli 707233
Civil Defence Deir Alia 57306
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 670341
Blood Bank 778003
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 62300-3
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 639141
Electric Power Co. 638304, 624861
Municipal water complaints 771258
Amman Air Int. Airport (06)5330060

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn 642481/6
Al-Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn 642481/6
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malinas, J. Amman 636148
Palestine, Shmeisani 664174
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 84584/5
Al-Muhsen Hospital 6662779
The Islamic, Abdullah 66612757
Al-Ahli, Abdullah 6661646
Civil Defence 6771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafiah 77511126
Army, Marika 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in file per kg.
Apple (local) 750 / 600
Banana 350 / 300
Banana (Mukammur) 300 / 240
Beans 270 / 230
Cabbage 140 / 100
Cauliflower 220 / 160
Cucumbers 250 / 200
Dates 350 / 300
Eggplant (large) 140 / 100
Eggplant (small) 220 / 150
Figs 350 / 250
Garlic 700 / 600
Grapes (white) 260 / 200
Grapes (black) 240 / 200
Grapes (red) 180 / 120
Guava 380 / 300
Lemon (green) 130 / 100

GENERAL

Jordan Television 7231119
Radio Jordan 7231119
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666112
Price complaints 661176
Telephone Information 661112
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. A. Najjar 75500
Dr. Mahmud Jaber 86691
Dr. Wa'el Khartabeh 61935
Dr. Ayman Agabaw 64396
First pharmacy 66191
Ferdous pharmacy 76736
Al Asma pharmacy 63705
Nasrallah pharmacy 62682
Al Salam pharmacy 63670
TAXIS:
Abram taxi 66301
Venezia taxi 64455
Palestine taxi 61747
Sawassan taxi 66594
Mehyar taxi 64574
Khayyam taxi 64157
Jordan taxi 62350
Asem taxi 64503
IBRD:
Dr. Muhammad Zohri 34016
Bosnal pharmacy (—)
Sharaa pharmacy (—)
ZARQA:
Dr. Hisham Hagest 90340
Adham pharmacy (—)
Al Etikah pharmacy (—)

MARKET PRICES

Malwa 70 / 40
Marrow 260 / 200
Olive 200 / 150
Onion (dry) 140 / 100
Okra 480 / 400
Cucumbers 340 / 280
Peas 250 / 200
Pepper (hot) 160 / 120
Pepper (sweet) 160 / 120
Pump 250 / 200
Potato 230 / 180
Pomegranates 340 / 280
Radish 480 / 400
Spinach 260 / 200
Squash 240 / 200
Sweetcorn 160 / 120
Tomatoes 160 / 120
Watermelon 100 / 40

University head thanks King, Crown Prince

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the University of Jordan Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali has sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein voicing appreciation and gratitude for patronising the university's silver jubilee celebrations, which included a sports festival with athletes from Arab universities.

Population committee reviews policy reports

AMMAN (Petra) — The National Population Committee on Saturday held a meeting under the chairmanship of Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Haj Hassan to review two working papers related to the national policy on population.

The first paper prepared by the committee's secretary-general deals with the tasks and the method of work conducted by the committee members, and the second reviews the work of the committee's secretariat.

The first paper outlined the different stages of work carried out by the committee since its establishment in 1973, the reason behind the enormous and abnormal increase in Jordan's population, as well as the committee's programmes.

The second paper covered complaints by committee members for the lack of proper executive and technical services to help them conduct studies and implement resolutions and recommendations.

The meeting was attended by the under secretary of the Ministry of Information, the secretary general of the Ministry of Higher Education, the under secretaries of the ministries of education and planning, the under secretary of the Ministry of Health, the director of the Department of Statistics, the director of the Civil Registration Department and the director of the Population Department at the University of Jordan.

The committee had been established for defining and diagnosing Jordan's population problems and for working out a long-term national population strategy that can cope with the Kingdom's economic development. The population strategy should also address population growth in relation to education and the labour market.

Cabinet approves loaning of collection to museum

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Cabinet has given approval for loaning a collection of Jordanian artefacts and antiquities to the Cologne Museum in West Germany to be displayed at an exhibition due to open on Oct. 2.

The exhibition, under the title of "The King's Highway: 9,000 years of Art in the Kingdom of Jordan," will be held in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Antiquities, the Royal Jordanian Airline and the West German Embassy in Amman.

The exhibition, similar to one opened in Paris last November by

Her Majesty Queen Noor, is expected to be opened by the Queen during a visit to Cologne.

The seven-month exhibition will display an array of Jordanian antiquities unearthed in the Kingdom at different stages, representing human civilisation and culture since early history. The exhibition will also display a sample of art work by Jordanian artists, traditional jewellery, and costumes.

According to a spokesman for the Department of Antiquities, the exhibition will move from Cologne to a number of major West German cities.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Energy minister to attend Seoul panel

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib Friday left for South Korea to take part in the World Energy Conference, which will open Sunday in Seoul. The conference will discuss issues related to introducing energy to various countries.

University head receives delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali on Saturday received an educational delegation from North Yemen. They discussed scopes of cooperation between the university and educational institutions in North Yemen.

Court sentences drug trafficker

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Mohammad Madi Ali to seven years imprisonment and the payment of JD 700 for trafficking hashish. The Military Governor on Saturday endorsed the sentence.

Dentists to take part in Baghdad session

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the meetings of the Arab Dentists Federation, which will open in Baghdad on Wednesday. Jordanian Dentists Association President, and the federation's vice-president, Dr. Walid Marara, said that the three-day session will discuss the preparations and agenda for the federation's 15th conference, which will be held in Amman on April 7, 1988.

New postage stamps issued

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Communications has issued a new set of postage stamps of the 80 fils denomination featuring the Sahah Industrial City. The issue, the ministry said in a statement, is in recognition of the industrial city's efforts in encouraging investors and industrialists to start businesses in Jordan.

Iranian leaders show no sign of accepting U.N. call

(Continued from page 1)

threats of retaliation, as communications have done in the last few days.

But there were no other reports Saturday of significant military action on land or in the Gulf, where both sides have been attacking shipping.

Iraq noted, however, that its helicopter gunships flew 57 combat missions against Iranian military positions.

IRNA gave few details of Mr. Perez de Cuellar's meeting in Tehran on Saturday. But it quoted Mr. Velayati as outlining "IRNA's principled position" regarding the Security Council resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar first had a two-hour morning meeting at the Foreign Ministry with Mr. Velayati, Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Larjani, Iran's U.N. representative said Rajaei Khoroassani and other officials.

After a lunch given by Mr. Velayati in honour of the secret-

ary general, the talks resumed for about another hour at the guest house where Mr. Perez de Cuellar is staying. A third round was scheduled for late Saturday.

The Iranian news agency reported Mr. Mousavi as having said the Iranian people believed "that to defuse tension in the region, practical steps should be taken towards realisation of justice."

IRNA said the prime minister thanked Mr. Perez de Cuellar for his "positive stance on the need to identify the aggressor party in the conflict."

IRNA said the U.N. chief had expressed satisfaction at his visit to Tehran and outlined his viewpoints on the Gulf issue and the Security Council resolution on the war.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar is also scheduled to see Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani and President Ali Khamenei before heading to Baghdad on Monday. Iraq, which has been seeking to end the war for some time, has

Dudin briefs Soviet group on Jordan's assistance efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the University of Tashkent in the Soviet Union conferred here Saturday with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin on the Palestinian question and the continued Israeli occupation of Arab lands.

The minister told the delegation, which is led by Dr. Nicolai Sergei, the university's president, about his ministry's measures to help alleviate the suffering of the Arab population under Israeli rule, in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

M. Dudin also outlined the volume and type of assistance provided to the Arab people

under Israeli rule through a general five-year economic and social development plan designed to help them remain steadfast in the face of Israel's pressures and arbitrary measures designed to uproot the Arab population from their land.

The Jordanian government has contributed greatly towards implementing projects in education and social development in the occupied Arab territories, and has spent nearly \$50 million in the course of carrying out the five-year plan which began in 1986, the minister noted.

During the meeting, the minister and the visiting delegation reviewed Israel's repeated viola-

tions of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, as well as Israel's intervention in the educational curricula in Arab schools and universities.

Mr. Dudin stressed Jordan's firm stand with regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and said that an international Middle East peace conference involving all concerned parties can guarantee the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 338 and 442 on the issue.

The Soviet delegation had earlier visited the University of Jordan and met with its president, Abdul Salam Al Majali, to discuss bilateral cooperation in educational fields.

UNRWA teachers' demands denied

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian refugees will be unable to meet the demands of instructors at the UNRWA Wadi Seer Vocational School, said Denis Brown, deputy director of UNRWA in Jordan.

For the second week, instructors have been demanding compensation for the extra eight weeks they work annually — additional work not required of their colleagues in government training school.

"We are paid the same, if not less, as government employees, without the benefits that government employees receive. Unlike them, we can only have one service promotion, while they can continue up the ladder. Yet we work 42 weeks, while government instructors in vocational schools work 34 weeks," said a source at the UNRWA vocational school.

The source, who requested anonymity, stressed that the 83

trade instructors at the centre are not asking for a salary increase, but for a compensation for the extra weeks they work.

These instructors are supported by the remaining 53 community instructors who work at Wadi Seer. All have agreed not to teach the 1,400 students who will begin courses on Sept. 19 in any curriculum classes which are not part of the vocational training, namely, those classes in academic subjects. They have also agreed not to meet any visitors or UNRWA officials until their demands are met, said the source, who is also on the executive committee of teachers in Jordan.

However, it seems unlikely that the instructors' demands will be met, according to Mr. Brown. In April this year, technical experts came from UNRWA headquarters in Vienna to evaluate the system with technicians supervising the quality of vocational training from UNRWA, Amman and government officials. "They did not find such compensation necessary after extensive evaluation," Mr. Brown

said. "We cannot adjust to the government year because we feel that the job market is tougher for students, and the students at UNRWA training centre have a good reputation which we believe is due to better skills gained from longer weeks of training," he said.

Although the source said this was precisely why the instructors should receive compensation, Mr. Brown said, "Unless the government changes its position, unfortunately there is nothing we can do and we can not ask Vienna for another survey."

Mr. Brown explained that a study of the civil service is being conducted by the Jordanian government, "and, until the study sees a need for compensation, we can not shorten the school year nor pay more."

Mr. Brown expressed disappointment at the instructors' actions, and said that they were following up the situation. "To date, only one course which was to be held two weeks ago was boycotted by 11 teachers, he said.

Colleges to take 25,000

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Higher Education expects that private and public sector community colleges in Jordan to absorb no less than 25,000 tawjili students in the 1987-1988 academic year.

A ministry spokesman, Mohammad Halalsheh, said that the Council of Higher Education has given its approval for renewing licences of 620 faculties in these community colleges for this year.

The number of students that will be absorbed corresponds to nearly 86.4 per cent of the total number of those who passed the tawjili examination this past summer, Mr. Halalsheh said.

Community colleges under government control have received applications that equal five times the number of available seats, he said.

According to Mr. Halalsheh, registration of new students at the community colleges closed last Thursday, but registration of students at private community colleges will continue until Sept. 24, and the classes will reopen next Saturday, Sept. 19.

Minister chosen to chair Iraqi literary committee

BAGHDAD (Petra) — An Iraqi committee set up to nominate prominent writers and literary figures for the Saddam Award for Literature has selected Minister of Higher Education Nassereddine Al Assad as chairman.

The committee, made up of 15

prominent Arab writers and intellectuals, will hold meetings to select five Arabs for the award. The nominees will be those figures who have produced literature or poetry in Arabic designed to enrich the language and the Arab literary tradition.

Resources team to study oil exploration in Algeria

AMMAN (Petra) — A team from the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) will leave for Algeria by the end of the month in order to examine Algeria's experiment in oil exploration, and also the manufacture of equipment and machinery used in this field, according to Abdul Ilah Al Rousan, director of the NRA's Petroleum Department.

Mr. Rousan, who will lead the delegation on the visit, said that he will hold talks with Algerian oil ministry officials on the prospect of bilateral cooperation in oil-related fields and in the maintenance of oil rigs.

The visit is in implementation

of a Jordanian-Algerian agreement on bilateral cooperation in oil prospecting, training of personnel employed in the oil industry, and the drilling of oil wells, according to Mr. Rousan.

He said that the NRA will next year acquire oil rigs to replace those which are now on loan to the authority. Mr. Rousan noted that a larger NRA team will pay a visit to Algeria later on to discuss an executive programme on bilateral cooperation.

The NRA, he said, had earlier concluded deals for cooperation in the oil industry with Iraq and Egypt.

Industrial exhibition opened at university

AMMAN (Petra) — An engineering, industrial, and scientific exhibition was opened at the University of Jordan on Saturday by University President Abdul Salam Al Majali, in the course of the university's silver jubilee celebrations.

The exhibition, which was organised by the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, displays national products by 26 local industrial companies in the Kingdom. The items range from

pipes and petrochemicals, to paper, electric appliances, kerosene and solar heaters.

The exhibition is intended to reflect the country's industrial progress and the role of the University of Jordan in promoting businesses and industries in the local community through cooperation between the Faculty of Engineering and local industrial concerns, according to a university statement on the occasion.

Dr. Majali later opened exhibi-

tions displaying equipment and apparatus used in laboratories.

The opening ceremonies were attended by deans of various faculties, as well as students.

Later, Dr. Majali held a meeting with students who are joining classes for their first year. The university president spoke about the development of the university and its various functions. In addition, he called on the students to participate in extracurricular activities on the campus.



Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin discusses Jordan's aid to Arabs living under Israeli rule during a Saturday meeting with a delegation from the University of Tashkent, Soviet Union (Petra photo).

Expatriate transfer payments increase despite recession

KUWAIT (J.T.) — A report in the Kuwaiti daily Al Siyassah said that Jordanian expatriates' money transfers to their homeland have been increasing progressively over the past five years, despite the general economic recession in the Arab World.

According to the paper, Jordanians living in Kuwait and other Arab states transferred a total of JD 381 million in 1982, rising to JD 413 million in 1986. It said that the transfers witnessed a decline only in 1985, when the total amount transferred to Jordan was JD 402 million, compared with JD 475 million in 1984, and JD 403 million in 1983.

The paper attributed the increase in transfers to sound economic policies by Prime Minister

its commitments to other nations and paid up its loans, which, in 1982, amounted to JD 187 million, and JD 222 million in 1986.

The paper noted that Jordan has been accumulating its assets of foreign currency reserves which it said rose from JD 632 million in 1982 to JD 821 million in 1986, giving credence to the Jordanian claim, which has maintained its edge in the exchange rate against the American dollar.

In July, Prime Minister Rifai urged Jordanian expatriates to convert their foreign currency funds into Jordanian currency,

and to increase their contributions towards the prosperity of the country through investment in development projects. The appeal was made by Mr. Rifai, the third day of the third Jordanian Expatriates conference that was being held in Amman at the time.

Mr. Rifai said that the Jordanian economy was strong, thanks to sound planning and proper execution of programmes by cooperation between the private and public sectors, and with support and backing from Arab countries where the expatriates are being employed. He said that Arab and foreign funds have been increasingly channelled into projects in Jordan, which enjoy political stability and a unique geographical location in the Arab World.

Aviation experts to meet in Aqaba

By a Reporter

AMMAN — Top aviation specialists from all parts of the world are meeting in Aqaba on Monday Sept. 14, to discuss the changing needs of the air travel marketplace in different parts of the world.

Organised by the International Air Transport Association (IATA), with the assistance and cooperation of Royal Jordanian, the high level seminar is being held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein.

The discussions will focus on four main areas: new developments in air transport regulation; changes in airline sales and marketing; new product and pricing strategies; and developments in staff employment needs.

The seminar is the third in a series begun in 1983 to provide top airline executives, government officials, and others involved in shaping aviation's future, with an opportunity to exchange views and experience on evolving trends in the industry which, combined with tourism, is one of the world's largest and a vital element in world trade.

The first two seminars were held in the Federal Republic of Germany (1983) and the Philippines (1985), under IATA auspices.

Among speakers at the Aqaba seminar will be: Mr. Ali Ghandour, chairman and chief executive of Royal Jordanian, Dr. Gunter O. Eser, director general of IATA, and Mr. Richard A. Albrecht, executive vice president of Boeing commercial airline company.

Inspection teams find 200 illegal workers

IRBID (Petra) — Ministry of Labour and Social Development inspection teams recently discovered 200 non-Jordanians working illegally in Irbid Governorate, and ordered them to leave the country, according to Walid Abu Salim, director of the Irbid employment office.

Mr. Salim said that the 200 were discovered during an inspection campaign that covered 500 institutions and businesses in the governorate. He called on all institutions to refrain from employing non-Jordanians who do not carry work permits, otherwise, they will have to pay fines

that can reach up to JD 75 for each foreign worker they employ.

Last month, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development announced that it fined 336 violators of the labour law, most employers who offered work to foreign labourers that did not carry work permits.

Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Haj Hassan on Aug. 14 warned that employers found violating labour regulations more than once will be prohibited from employing non-Jordanians in their businesses under any circumstances.

Exports drop in first five months of 1987

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian national exports in the first five months of 1987 registered a drop of nearly JD 4.5 million, in comparison with the volume of exports in the same period of 1986, according to a bulletin issued Saturday by the Department of Statistics.

The bulletin said that Jordan's imports in the same period this year increased by JD 62.5 million, in comparison with 1986.

In addition, the bulletin stated that the value of Jordan's exports from the beginning of 1987 until the end of May amounted to JD 88.3 million, against JD 92.8 million in the same period of last year.

It said that between Jan. 1, 1987 and the end of May, Jordan's imports amounted to JD 319 million, compared to JD 256 million in the first five months of 1986.

Writers group endorses bylaws

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Writers Federation (JWF) has endorsed bylaws and internal regulations prepared by the JWF's board of directors.

Endorsement by the JWF's general assembly followed lengthy discussions of the different articles of the bylaws, which are designed to help achieve the federation's goals, according to a JWF spokesman.

He said that the endorsed set of bylaws will be referred to the government for approval.

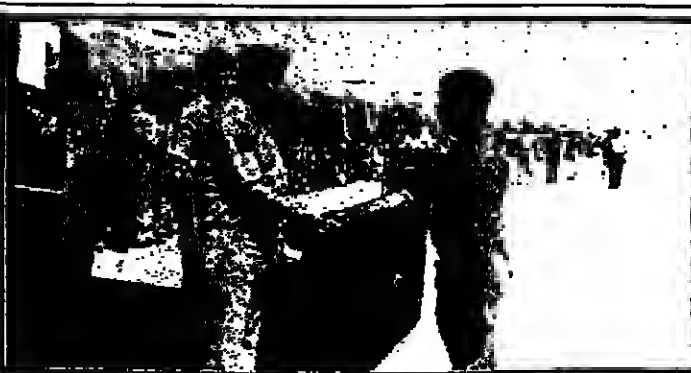
The general assembly also entrusted the present board of directors to carry on with the task of acting as a membership committee until members for this committee have been chosen.

The bylaws had been discussed in detail at a series of meetings by the board, according to Dr. Hani Al Ahmad, JWF president. He said, in a statement, that the board has introduced a proposal for JWF branches, which entails the establishment of five branches around the country.

EQUIPMENT WANTED

The Dubai-based Fadel Akel commercial establishment announces that it is interested in buying used equipment, provided that it should be ready for export and tax-free. Such equipment includes: cranes, rubber rollers, iron-rubber rollers, wire-printing, iron rollers, (scrap electric cables).

For information, please contact Mr. Fadel Akel from 8-9 a.m. and from 4.30-6.30 p.m. on Sat., Sun., and Mon. Sept. 12, 13, and 14, at the Regency Palace Hotel, Amman, tel.: 660000, telex: 22244/5, room no. 1417. After these days, Mr. Akel can be contacted through tel.: 258023 and 258874, telex 47028 Akel, Emirates, Dubai, P.O. Box 10634 Dubai.



Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taleb presents a diploma to one of the students graduating from Mu'ta University during Saturday's ceremony (Petra photo).

232 graduate from Mu'ta

KARAK (Petra) — A ceremony for the graduation of 232 students from Mu'ta University's Military Sciences Department was held Saturday under the patronage of Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taleb, army chief of staff.

The male and female graduates represent the first batch to be turned out from the university's civilian wing after taking a 10-

week military sciences course. The commander of the Military Sciences Faculty made an address on the occasion, in which he spoke about the university's general plans and aspirations.

Li. Gen. Abu Taleb distributed awards to the graduates who had completed training in light arms, field skills, infantry tactics, first aid, and target shooting.

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Iran bidding for time

AS U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's visit to the Gulf region enters its second day, there is a growing though guarded optimism that he may not go back to New York completely empty-handed. The consensus is that he will report to the U.N., on the eve of the forthcoming General Assembly session, that Iran accepts the so-called "concept of ceasefire." This is notwithstanding the recent escalation in the fighting between Iran and Iraq, and the issue of Iran's demand to identify Iraq as the principal aggressor remains to be settled. It may be recalled that U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 envisions addressing this important point of contention by requesting the secretary-general of the United Nations, as per operative paragraph 6 of the said resolution, to entrust to an impartial body the task of determining the issue of responsibility for the seven-year war. In this context, it is unfortunate that the drafters of 598 did not envisage considering the views of the two belligerent states on this subject in the preamble section of the resolution. But be that as it may, it is not certain that Tehran now sees this issue as anything beyond a tactical move designed to allow it time to continue the war or to provide it with a face-saving formula to end the conflict.

Clearly, there is now an important, and perhaps grave, division of opinion growing among the leadership in Iran. It is likely that there are the die-hard among the Khomeini regime who want the war to continue till they satisfy their lust for power and influence in Iraq, as elsewhere in the Gulf region. There are, on the other hand, those who can be described as the moderates — who seek a respite to recuperate. Those in this second group would want to delay the conclusion of their conflict till later time, probably after the election of the next parliament in the spring of 1988. But, most of all, the moderates, or the "delayers," now comprehend that, after seven years of trial, Iran could not realise a military triumph and is not likely to do in the foreseeable future. They may also have concluded that their dependence on Iran's ability to ignite a mutiny among the Shi'ite forces in Iraq is unfounded. The erosion of support for Iran's war effort, as evidenced by the latest change of stance on the war by Libya, must also have strengthened the forces of those among the Iranian officials who have calculated that enough is enough at least for the time being. This second group of Tehran officials probably view the consolidation of their Islamic republic as the first priority and that, after so many years of war, time is now propitious to divert the attention of the nations to bread-and-butter issues. With seven lean years already exploited to the bitter end and consumed fully for domestic and foreign reasons, this second group of Iranian officials may have estimated that they need seven fat years now to prepare for the second major round with their Arab neighbours.

We do not really know. But, whatever the intentions of the Iranian leaders, one should not expect too much from the U.N. secretary-general's mission of peace to the Gulf. After so many years of bloodshed, the solution cannot be instant. We may be witnessing just the beginning of a process for a negotiated settlement which may not be permanent. It is probable that the outcome of Mr. Perez de Cuellar's trip to the Gulf will remain unclear for some time. Yet, such ambiguity in the Iranian position could develop into the kind of opening through which the U.N. can strengthen the chances of peace. The Iranians are now beleaguered, defeated and probably demoralised. They may need to be nursed into accepting a negotiated settlement.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: King continues national mission

IN keeping with the Jordanian active role in the international arena, King Hussein arrived in Britain for talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the developments in the Iran-Iraq war. Following his stay in the United Kingdom the King is scheduled to pursue contacts on Middle East issues in Switzerland where he will also discuss questions of common interest to Jordan and Switzerland. Needless to say that Jordan's constant efforts abroad has kept the Middle East problems alive, and has also helped to abort Israel's attempts to reduce world public opinion's concern over the situation in the region. Jordan's endeavours in foreign countries have helped to mobilise further support for the long sought international peace conference particularly from the European Community nations. This endeavour is now to be translated into a practical action, speeding up the process of convening the aspired conference and contributing to its success. In its contacts with the Europeans and other nations Jordan has also succeeded in focusing world attention on the situation in the Gulf, calling for measures to be taken for ending the conflict. King Hussein's new offensive in Europe means that Jordan is determined to foil all suspect Israeli attempts to divert world attention from the proposed international conference to a side meeting by countries of the region, which can never provide the elements of a lasting peace.

Al Dustour: A visit with great significance

KING Hussein's talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher bear a great significance, coming in the present critical stage of the Middle East is going through. The Arab region witnesses a serious escalation of the Gulf conflict, while Iran continues to display increased intransigence as to the implementation of Security Council Resolution 598 to end the war. Britain along with the other members of the Security Council have offered Iran a golden opportunity to end its seven year old conflict with Iraq under United Nations auspices, and the Security Council member nations should be urged to continue their efforts to end the war. There is no doubt that the U.N. Organisation is doing what it can in this respect; and the current tour by the U.N. secretary general of the Gulf region, is part of these efforts and is a serious attempt to implement Resolution 598. King Hussein's talks with Mrs. Thatcher over the Gulf issue could be regarded as part of the general international effort to bring an end to the conflict. The initial outcome of the King's preliminary talks with the British prime minister emerged through government sources in London which said that the two sides hold identical views with regard to the implementation of the council resolution.

Sawt Al Shaab: Seeking Europe's support

IN his talks with the British prime minister, King Hussein is bound to discuss the question of holding an international conference to bring peace to the Middle East. Britain is a member of the European Community which put forward constructive ideas for peace through its declarations issued in Brussels and in Venice. The King is clearly dedicating his efforts to win further support from the Europeans for the Arab causes and to prevent Israel from continuing its disregard to the will and the decisions of the international community. King Hussein is also expected to bring up the question of the Gulf conflict and the implementation of Security Council Resolution 598 to end the seven-year-old war between Iraq and Iran. Britain is a permanent member of the council which issued that resolution; and it is hoped it will exert renewed efforts to have it implemented.

The Palestine question: There must be compromise

By Anthony Parsons

Sir Anthony Parsons, GCMG, is former Under-Secretary for Middle East affairs at the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office and U.K. Permanent Representative to the U.N. in New York. His article is reprinted from the London-based Middle East International.

FOR THE PAST six months or so the notion of an international conference on the Palestine problem with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council has been in the air. Although it seems unlikely to materialise so long as Prime Minister Shamir and the Likud members of the Israeli cabinet maintain their opposition, it is worth examining this initiative in its historical context.

Between 1949 and 1967 it can be stated without serious misrepresentation that the majority of the international community regarded the Palestine problem as having been solved, albeit by rough justice, except for the future of the refugees. Israel had emerged from the 1948-49 war as an expanded version of the Jewish state envisaged in the 1947 partition plan, while the diminished Arab state had been joined with Jordan. All this was of course de facto only: Neither the Arabs nor the Israelis had abandoned their respective, wider aspirations. But to most of the outside world the problem was more one of translating armistice lines into peaceful frontiers than of starting again from scratch.

After the 1967 war, the United Nations made its first serious attempt to effect this transformation. The drafters of Security Council resolution 242 were, in a nutshell, working towards the embodiment in a peace treaty of something on the lines of the status quo ante June 6, with the occupied territories of the West Bank being returned to Jordan. Only the Americans and Israelis with their few supporters saw the resolution in terms of a framework package, the details of which (the extent of withdrawal etc) were to be settled in direct negotiations. The Arab view was

firmly held, namely that the exact status quo ante must be restored before there could be any question of anything further, e.g. negotiations, direct or indirect, leading to a peace settlement.

These differing perceptions of the purpose of the resolution stymied Ambassador Jarring's mission during the first four years following its adoption. Meanwhile, the upsurge of autonomous Palestinian nationalism under PLO leadership (something the drafters of 242 did not take into account) on the one hand, and Israeli "creation of facts" in the occupied territories on the other, changed the diplomatic and actual landscape.

The idea of an Israeli withdrawal from all the territories occupied in 1967 has become a chimera...

Now, 20 years later, although the Israel Egypt sector of the resolution has been solved in direct negotiations, the idea of Israeli withdrawal from all the territories (the most widely accepted interpretation of the relevant clause in 242) occupied in 1967 has become a chimera, while the majority view in the United Nations is that an act of Palestinian self-determination (a concept which probably never entered the heads of the SCR drafters) must take place and that a separate Palestinian state must be established. The American/Israeli partnership has set its face against Palestinian self-determination, but even President Reagan, no anti-Israeli, went further in this direction in his abortive initiative of September 1982 than President Nixon and Ambassador Goldberg would have done in 1967.

Thus, Mr. Peres's initiative for an international conference amounts, in many senses, to an attempt to turn the clock back to November 1967 in a changed world. As I understand it, he has in mind the Security Council (or at least its permanent members) acting as a vehicle to promote direct negotiations with Jordan in order to agree a measure of withdrawal (the extent to be bargained over in the negotiations) in exchange for a peace treaty. This, minus the Sinai sector, almost precisely how the Israelis addressed the situation in the wake of the adoption of SCR 242 and is not far from what some extraregional supporters of the resolution, notably the United States, would have liked to have seen at that time. Israel has always favoured piecemeal negotiations with its neighbours. It eventually got its way with Egypt. Now it is Jordan's turn. Lebanon does not count and the Golan Heights (analogous to Sinai rather than the West Bank or Gaza as they never comprised part of mandatory Palestine) can wait until some further Syrian president is ready to do a Sadat, if ever.

This analysis raises the question: In the unlikely event of all the obstacles being overcome — the resistance of part of the Israeli coalition, possible Israeli pre-conditions for the participation of the Soviet Union, the question of Palestinian representation and, last but not least, the agenda itself — would an international conference have any greater chance of making progress now than the mechanism established by SCR 242 did 20 years ago, buttressed as it was by the four permanent members (China, at the time represented by Taiwan, was immaterial)? There are some positive factors. Nasser, the architect of the 1967 Khartoum summit, no longer dominates the Arab World, and the Israelis have withdrawn from Sinai (the

cry of "rather no peace with Sharm-es-Sheikh than peace without Sharm-es-Sheikh" will not again be heard). Mr. Gorbachev is perhaps readier for a major relaxation of tension in the Middle East than Brezhnev was, and is thus less likely to act as an implacable advocate of an inflexible Arab negotiating position. The PLO is less capable of freezing an Arab consensus in an uncompromising posture than it was in the 1970s and up to 1982, and might even be itself less adamant. Those Arabs who do not regard the Palestine problem as a Two Hundred Years War comparable to the Crusades must realise by now that a substantial proportion of the loaf would be better than a continuation for another 20 years of no crumb of bread. And the Israeli constituency which regards with

settlements in the occupied territories, some in heavily populated Arab areas, renders the restoration on the status quo ante June 6, 1967 impossible. The new facts have been created.

Nevertheless it is useful occasionally to face reality. After 20 years' experience we know that no outside power or powers is going to coerce Israel into negotiating on the terms which the "moderate" Arabs demand, i.e. agreement in principle to total withdrawal to be followed by the negotiation of a peace treaty which would include an act of self-determination by the Palestinians. It is however a step in the right direction that an important Israeli constituency — the Labour Alignment — is now prepared to involve outside states, including the "hostile" Soviet Union and the supposedly pro-Arab France and Britain, in a future negotiation, however tenuously and however mixed Mr. Peres's motives may be. Capturing Western support, dishing the Likud and giving the Arabs another opportunity to shoot themselves in the foot must all come into it. But it would be churlish to suggest that Mr. Peres is not also making a genuine bid for progress towards what he sees as the next step in piecemeal implementation of SCR 242 — the Jordanian option.

Israel has always favoured piecemeal negotiations with its neighbours... Now it is Jordan's turn.

At this preliminary stage it is possible to be sure of the following. If a conference were to meet and if the Israeli/American partnership were to insist that the permanent member presence should be no more than a fig-leaf for direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan on some kind of reduced Allon plan, namely Israel's withdrawal from some Arab centres of population on the West Bank, leaving large tracts of territory in Israeli hands, all the existing settlements in place, Israeli security posts in the Jordan valley, and no concession of any kind on Jerusalem, the conference would end abruptly. The

Arab need for a settlement at any price is not so great as all that, and the penalty for any Arab leader ready to even contemplate such a price would be heavy.

Conversely, if the Arabs were to come to the table in the spirit of Khartoum i.e. insisting on the pure milk of indirect negotiations and total withdrawal from every inch of territory occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem, the conference would break up equally quickly.

There are, I believe, compromise positions for both sides on every procedural and substantive issue — powers of negotiation, withdrawal, boundaries, refugees, Palestinian self-determination etc which, although offensive to purists, would safeguard the essential interests of Arabs and Israelis, provide the prospect of a decent

If the Arabs were to come to the table in the spirit of Khartoum the conference would break up quickly.

future for the suffering Palestinians and rid the region of the festering frustration which inhibits normal social and economic development and poses a constant danger to regional and world peace.

The odds against a conference taking place are heavy and the odds against a conference producing results are heavier still. But there is no other game any more near the field and this one should therefore be encouraged. But only as a serious endeavour to achieve progress towards a peaceful settlement, not as a domestic political ploy or a device to wrong-foot adversaries, nor as a forum in which to demonstrate steadfastness in defence of principles which will not be translated into practice in any of our lifetimes.

Foreign powers will soon have 75 warships in Gulf

LONDON (R) — Recent decisions by Italy and The Netherlands to send naval vessels to the Gulf bring to some 75 the number of warships that outside powers will soon have to protect shipping or clear mines in the region.

The current estimate for foreign warships in, en route to or about to sail for the Gulf area is: United States 34, France 15, Britain 10, Italy 8, Soviet Union 6, Netherlands 2.

These figures exclude at least six small U.S. minesweepers and patrol boats carried aboard a transport ship.

Here is a breakdown of the forces involved:

United States: Middle East force (assigned directly to Gulf to escort and support convoys of Kuwait tankers):

— Command ship La Salle (11,000 tonnes).

— Amphibious assault ship Guadalcanal (11,000 tonnes), carrying eight RH-53D Sea Stallion minesweeping helicopters.

— Guided missile cruisers Standley (6,570 tonnes) and Reeves (5,670 tonnes).

— Guided missile destroyer Kidd (6,210 tonnes).

— Guided missile frigates Klakring, Jarrett, Flatley, Kentz and Hawes (2,750 tonnes).

— Amphibious transport Dock Raleigh (14,665 tonnes) carrying four 57-foot (17-metre) wooden-hull coastal minesweepers and at least two high-speed patrol boats.

— Amphibious cargo ship St. Louis (20,700 tonnes).

Outside Gulf proper, in the northern Arabian Sea, the United States also has:

— Ranger group, to provide air cover for tankers moving through

the Strait of Hormuz:

— Aircraft carrier Ranger (60,000 tonnes), carrying about 90 aircraft.

— Guided missile cruiser Gridley (5,670 tonnes).

— Guided missile frigate Schofield (2,640 tonnes) and frigates Holt (3,000 tonnes) and Peary (3,000 tonnes).

— Guided missile destroyer Buchanan (3,370 tonnes) and electronic warfare destroyer Young (5,770 tonnes).

— Replenishment oiler Wichita (37,360 tonnes).

— Ammunition ship Shasta (18,000 tonnes).

Missouri group:

— Battleship Missouri (58,000 tonnes), armed with long-range Tomahawk cruise missiles.

— Guided missile cruiser Bunker Hill (9,600 tonnes) and nuclear-powered cruiser Long Beach (15,540 tonnes).

— Guided missile destroyer Hoel (3,370 tonnes) and electronic warfare destroyer Leffewich (5,770 tonnes).

— Guided missile frigate Curtis (2,750 tonnes).

— Ammunition ship Kansas City (12,500 tonnes).

In addition, six ocean-going minesweepers will join the U.S. armada in late September or October.

France: Naval task force, officially described as positioned between Djibouti and the Arabian Sea:

— Aircraft carrier Clemenceau (32,780 tonnes), equipped with 40 aircraft. Expected to head for Djibouti for repairs in next few days.

— Guided missile destroyers Suffren (5,090 tonnes) and Duquesne (6,090 tonnes).

Supply ships Var and Marne (17,450 tonnes).

Minesweeping force, sent to clear international waters outside the Gulf of mines:

— Minehunters Garigliano, Cantho and Vinh-Long (780 tonnes).

— Support ship Garonne



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Minesweeping force, sent to clear international waters outside the Gulf of mines:

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(2,320 tonnes), soon to be replaced by the Loire.

Indian Ocean fleet (ships enter the Gulf when needed to provide assistance to French merchant vessels):

— Flagship Marne (17,450 tonnes).

— Escort frigates Protet, Doudart de Lagree, Victor

Schoelcher and Commandant Bory (2,230 tonnes) and anti-submarine frigate Georges Leygues (4,170 tonnes).

Britain: Armilla patrol (accompanies British-flagged merchant ships in southern Gulf):

— Frigates Brazen (3,500 tonnes) and Andromeda (2,500 tonnes).

— Destroyer Edinburgh (3,500 tonnes).

tonnes) stationed in Indian Ocean ready to replace one of the two frigates if required.

— Support tanker Brambleleaf (33,000 tonnes).

— Minesweeping force (due to reach Gulf by mid-September):

— Mine warfare vessels Bicester, Hurworth, Brecon and Brocksley (615 tonnes).

— Mine counter-measures support vessel Abdiel (1,500 tonnes).

— Support ship Regent (13,590 tonnes) also due in Gulf by mid-September but due to be replaced later in month by repair ship Diligence (10,595 tonnes) en route from Falkland Islands.

Italy: Task force expected to be sent to the Gulf next week after parliamentary approval, and arrive within a further 15-25 days:

— Minesweepers Vieste, Milazzo and Sappi (485 tonnes).

— Frigates Scirocco and Grecale (2,700 tonnes) and Perseo (2,208 tonnes).

— Supply ship Vesuvio (4,200 tonnes).

— Salvage vessel Anteo (2,857 tonnes).

Soviet Union: Soviet officials say Moscow has six naval vessels in the area: Western sources identify these as three 650-tonne Natya class minesweepers, two frigates and an intelligence-gathering vessel. One of the frigates has been identified as the Ladny (3,100 tonnes).

Netherlands: Two- vessel mine-hunting force expected to sail next week and rely in Gulf on British logistical support:

— Minehunters Hellevoetsluis and Maassluis (510 tonnes).

Mengistu's toughness propels him to the top in Ethiopia

By Jerry Gray
The Associated Press

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia — Mengistu Haile Mariam, Ethiopia's first civilian president, has proved to be the toughest player in the ruthless game of Ethiopian politics since a Marxist revolution 13 years ago.

The National Shengo (assembly) elected Mengistu head of state Thursday, ending military rule.

Mengistu has been the unchallenged power in this East African country for the past decade. His switch from Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council to President of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia does not diminish that power.

Mengistu is a very private person and encourages his colleagues to maintain the mystery about him.

He drinks and smokes, but in moderation.

Although fluent in English, he uses only Amharic, the national language, in public and is given to longwinded speeches. At the open-

ing Wednesday of the National Shengo, Mengistu gave a seven-hour speech, interrupted by two lengthy breaks.

He is a member of the Ethiopian Orthodox church, but does not attend public services, and lives in a heavily-fortified compound in central Addis Ababa with his wife and their several children. His wife seldom is seen in public.

Mengistu's accession to the No. 1 spot is a result of his fierce nationalism, shrewd intelligence and ready use of force to achieve his goals.

Mengistu was born in the mid-1940s, the exact date is unknown. His father was Amharic, the largest ethnic group among Ethiopia's 44 million people.

Mengistu joined emperor Haile Selassie's army as a private in the late 1950s. After completing the equivalent of a 10th grade education, he attended Ethiopia's Holeta Military Academy and was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in June 1960.

With additional training in the United States, he rose quickly through the ranks and became a



Mengistu Haile Mariam

major in 1972.

His political rise paralleled the descent of Haile Selassie, who for 44 years reigned over one of the world's last feudal empires.

In July 1974, Mengistu became a founding member of the dergue, the military clique which dethroned the emperor, imprisoned 10 members of his family, and established one of Africa's first Marxist governments.

When the Provisional Military Administrative Council took power on Sept. 12, 1974, Mengistu

became first vice-chairman. The original dergue numbered 126, according to some references, but there was never an official announcement then or now.

Haile Selassie died at the age of 83 under mysterious circumstances while in military detention 11 months after his downfall. His daughter, daughter-in-law, grandchildren and other relatives remain imprisoned in Addis Ababa, despite calls from Western nations for their release.

The man who replaced the emperor as Ethiopia's leader, Lt.-Gen. Aman Andom, spent barely two months in power before he became one of the first victims of the intrigue that would end with Mengistu supreme.

Aman and two other dergue members were shot in November. At the same time, 57 former high-ranking officials, including 20 former prime ministers and 17 generals, were executed without trial.

Brig.-Gen. Teferi Benti replaced Aman, but only as a figurehead. The real power lay with the two vice-chairmen, Mengistu and Lt.-Col. Atafu Abate.

Third in Israel say U.S. Jews need not immigrate

By Charles Hoffman

NEARLY one-third of Israelis do not condemn American Jews for failing to make aliya and do not believe that American Jews can live a fuller Jewish life in Israel, according to a survey published recently by the Institute on American Jewish-Israeli relations of the American Jewish Committee.

The survey of Israeli attitudes towards American Jews, Zionism and other issues was conducted in late 1986 by Mina Zemah of the Dahaf Research Institute.

Israelis generally see the American Jewish community in a positive light, although less than half feel some emotional attachment to them. About half perceive the American Jews as generous and having a positive attitude towards Israel, and only 11 per cent think that American Jews tend to denigrate Israel's achievements.

Nearly 70 per cent believe that the survival of a strong and committed Jewish community in America is good for Israel. A

fourth of those polled worry that the U.S. might stop being a firm ally of Israel. Most feel that when it comes to the crunch, Israel can depend only on itself in its struggle for survival.

Close to half of those polled believe that American Jews should not publicly criticize the policies of the Israeli government. But a similar percentage believe that even those American Jews who do so should not be banned from speaking in community centres and synagogues.

Close to half disagree with the view that Israelis who move to other countries are doing something wrong. One fifth, mostly young people, even admitted that they had considered leaving Israel during the past few years.

A clear majority was opposed to amending the Law of Return so that non-Orthodox conversions performed abroad would not be recognised in Israel. But only one-third would justify a negative reaction by American Jews if the law were changed — The Jerusalem Post.

Chefs des Chefs d'Etat hold summit at Waldorf

By Joanne Kenen
Reuters

NEW YORK — Two dozen chefs who normally pamper the palates of the powerful have turned their talents to charity.

Le Club des Chefs des Chefs d'Etat — the club of chefs of state — held a summit meeting in New York recently in the two-storey kitchen of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Members of the exclusive club contributed recipes for a banquet at the hotel to raise money for the March of Dimes, a charity which helps people suffering from birth defects.

The menu consisted of 13 appetizers, zucchini and tomato soup, lobster mousse with sauce nantua, grapefruit and vodka granite, roast saddle of veal with wild mushrooms and spinach, grilled summer vegetables, green salad, peaches with tarragon, cheese, and a "grande dessert finale."

"The lobster mousse," said Henry Haller, the Swiss-born chef at the White House, "is a particular favourite of mine. I served it to (French Premier Jacques) Chirac at a state dinner."

On the morning of the gala, Haller and about two dozen fellow members of the club of chefs gathered in the Waldorf's enormous kitchen, which produces 6,000 to 7,000 meals a day for the guests in the hotel's 1,600 rooms and four restaurants.

The kitchen has everything a chef could desire — even two dozen visiting chefs in the service of presidents, kings, queens and emperors.

It has soup cauldrons almost the size of bathtubs, a room dedicated solely to chopping vegetables and room service "staging areas" that would make a military general weep.

The kitchen, in fact, is on a royal scale, according to Graham Newhould, who knows about such things.

Until he recently became chef at Inverloch Castle in Scotland, now a private hotel, he reigned over the kitchen at Kensington Palace, home to Britain's Prince Charles, Princess Diana, and various royal toddlers, whose eating habits Newhould politely declined to discuss.

It was the first time the club, which was formed 10 years ago in the name of "upholding the tradi-

tion of haute cuisine," held its annual meeting in the United States, and the first time it cooked for charity.

A March of Dimes spokeswoman said the organisation hoped to raise about \$250,000 from the banquet.

As they prepared for the dinner, the chefs wore special jackets bearing the insignia of one of the club's sponsors, the Bragard Kitchen Supply Company, and miniature versions of their national flags embossed on their collars.

Naturally, each wore a toque, a tall white chef's hat.

For Rene Rastello, the chef for state receptions in Switzerland — and the inspiration for the vol au vent of sweetbreads with truffles among the appetizers — the visit to the Waldorf was a homecoming.

"I worked here in 1955," he said, adding that he spent most of his time as a young cook there "chopping things."

Two of the newest club members, Sun Ying Wu and Bao Lingzhu, came from China, where they are, respectively, the chef of Diaoyutai state house, which accommodates visiting

heads of state, and the chef of the Great Hall of the People in Peking.

Unable to speak French, the lingua franca for chefs, they relied on a young interpreter. Though quite capable of explaining in English the subtle distinctions between various types of flour, she didn't speak French either.

But anything the Chinese chefs didn't catch, they can figure out later. They brought videocameras with them and taped everything, even the hotel staff tying red, white and blue ribbons around asparagus.

The club chefs contributed to the menu, and they supervised the cooking for the banquet. But the Waldorf staff, under supervision of the hotel's 29-year-old head chef, John Doherty, actually prepared the meal.

Doherty, along with New York Times food writer Pierre Franey, also selected the menu from the club chefs' suggestions.

"There's no ingredient that we can't get here," Doherty said — although one visiting chef whispered to a colleague that he saw no sign of his reindeer recipe on the menu.

Norway's King Olav looks back on 30 years on the throne

By Nicholas Doughty
Reuters

OSLO — In 30 years as Norway's monarch, King Olav has seen his country transformed from a European backwater into an affluent, modern state, thanks largely to its North Sea oil riches.

But it is the memory of the role he played as crown prince during World War II, as he struggled to save his country from Nazi occupation, that most Norwegians still cherish.

This month, Europe's oldest reigning monarch, a robust 84, will mark three decades of a popular reign that has seen Norway make great economic strides. What had been a poor nation of fishers and farmers suddenly found itself flush with cash in the early 1970s, after major oil discoveries were made off the western coast. Norway's new-found oil wealth endowed the country with one of the world's highest standards of living within just a few years.

His four million subjects will hail a man whose eventual life has seen him crouch under a tree as German dive bombers closed in, take part in the perilous sport of ski-jumping and win an Olympic sailing medal.

But King Olav has always been a true man of the people who embodied the egalitarian traditions of his subjects.

He has often walked the streets of Oslo alone and, when asked about his lack of personal security, replied:

"But I have four million bodyguards."

His people wander freely in the park surrounding the palace in the centre of Oslo, watched only by a few of the king's guards, in black uniforms with white feathers in their caps.

In the winter of 1974, when the government handed Sunday driving because of the world oil crisis, Olav decided to take a wooden tram to the ski slopes — but had great difficulty in persuading the conductor that he should pay his own fare.

There are very few Norwegians who do not feel great affection for their king.

Even Hanna Kvanmo, leader of the tiny Socialist left party who would like to abolish the monarchy, once said:

"We don't want to hurt Olav's feelings. He's a nice chap."

The city of Oslo will be decked out with hundreds of blue, red and white national flags on September 27, the anniversary

of a reception and dinner are to be given in King Olav's honour. King Olav, a great-grandson of Britain's Queen Victoria, came to the throne in 1957 on the death of his father, Haakon.

A remarkable turn of events saved Olav, his father and the entire government as German invasion forces headed towards Oslo on April 9, 1940.

A handful of Norwegian soldiers fired an old cannon at the pride of the German navy, the new cruiser Bluecher, as it led the task force through a narrow strait in the Oslo fjord.

A lucky shot hit the magazine and the Bluecher exploded and sank, blocking the way for the rest of the force and giving Haakon, Olav and the government a few precious hours to escape.

They fled to the mountains of northern Norway, where they narrowly evaded capture by the Germans who traced them to a remote hideout and sent in dive-bombers to flush them out.

In June 1940, with Norway virtually defeated, Olav offered to stay with his people to ease their plight under occupation.

The government refused and he escaped with his father to Britain, where he supervised the

organisation of an army in exile. Finally, in May 1945, he returned to Oslo ahead of his father after German forces had capitulated to the Norwegian resistance.

Olav's sporting skill was shown when he won a gold medal for yachting in the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics. In 1971, at the age of 68, he won a bronze medal in the world sailing championships. He was a redoubtable ski jumper and could be seen on cross-country skis well into his 80s.

Born on July 2, 1903, on the British royal family's Sandringham estate in Norfolk, England, Olav attended a normal Oslo secondary school. Later in life, he said he was deeply grateful to his parents for sending him to an ordinary school.

He attended a three-year course at the Norwegian military academy and then studied at Oxford University's Balliol College, where he read political science and economics.

In 1929, he married his cousin, Princess Martha of Sweden, who died in 1954.

The couple had three children — and it is Crown Prince Harald, now 50, who will take the throne on his father's death.



OLIVER: The young audience of the National Youth Theatre in Sofia is happy with Lionel Bart's musical adaptation of Charles Dickens of *Oliver*. The producer — Andrei Avramov has followed the traditional musical: lyrics, music, songs and dances are harmoniously combined and form an integral whole. Along with professional actors

young singers of the Gouslarcho Boys Choir and students of the state choreography school in Sofia are also taking part. They are excellently managing with their parts and are gratified with the applause of the audience (Photo by Ivan Tsonev — Sofia Press)

Son of 1st Everest climber aims to conquer it himself

KATHMANDU (R) — The son of the first man to climb Mount Everest, 34 years ago, has begun his own bid to scale the world's highest peak, the Nepalese tourism ministry said.

Peter Hillary, 32, whose father Sir Edmund made the first ascent in May 1953 with Tenzing Norgay Sherpa, is leading a four-man team of New Zealanders and Australians.

They pitched base camp at 5,360 metres on August 23, according to the ministry spokesman, but no further news was available.

Seven teams are planning assaults on the 8,848-metre mountain this autumn, the start of the climbing season. Three are trying "from its" southern, Nepalese, slopes and four from the Tibetan north.

Their members come from the United States, Japan, Britain, France, West Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Italy as well as Australia and New Zealand. Besides Hillary, who would be the first son of an Everest summiteer to conquer the mountain himself, this season's climbers are aiming for a number of other "firsts":

— The first father-and-son bid for the summit.

— The first scaling of the east-northeast ridge, Everest's last unconquered feature.

— The first woman to reach the summit without oxygen.

— The first French and American women to the top.

— The first person to reach the summit by two previously unclimbed routes.

— The first American to the top by two different routes.

— The first person to ski down from the summit.

Hillary, who lives in Australia, in Carlton, Victoria, is using a different route from his father's, taking his team up the south pillar



Mount Everest — world's highest peak

Seven teams are planning assaults on the 8,848-metre mountain this autumn, the start of the climbing season. Three are trying from its southern, Nepalese, slopes and four from the Tibetan north. Their members come from the United States, Japan, Britain, France, West Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Italy as well as Australia and New Zealand.

of Everest.

And unlike Sir Edmund Hillary, now New Zealand's high commissioner in New Delhi, Peter will be climbing entirely without the help of supplemental oxygen or Nepalese Sherpas.

This is Peter's second bid to follow his father to the top of the world. The first, three years ago, ended in tragedy when two Australian teammates, Fred From and Craig Nottle, fell to their deaths.

Doug Scott and son Michael from Britain are among a group of nine climbers aiming to conquer Everest's last unclimbed feature, the long and difficult east-northeast ridge.

Two Britons, Peter Boardman and Joe Tasker, disappeared while attempting this route in 1982.

Doug Scott, 45, is one of Britain's best-known mountaineers and in September 1975 he made the first ascent of Everest's vast south-west face.

If Doug and Michael go to the summit together, they will be the first father-son pair atop Everest.

Doug would also be the first person to have succeeded on two previously unclimbed routes.

On the south-east ridge route

pioneered by Hillary and Norgay, now the most frequently attempted, will be 11 Americans including Peter Whittaker, 28, from Ashford, Washington, nephew of Jim Whittaker, the first American to reach the summit.

The elder Whittaker planted the stars and stripes on top of Everest with Norgay's nephew, Nawang Gombu Sherpa, on May Day 1963.

Four women among Whittaker's teammates, and more on other U.S. expeditions on the northern slopes, will be battling to become the first American women atop Everest.

Another mostly German-speaking expedition includes Laurence de la Ferriere, 30, from Chamonix, who wants to be the first Frenchwoman to the summit, and the first woman to succeed without artificial oxygen.

Only six women, compared with 185 men, have stood at the top of the world — one each from Japan, China, Poland, West Germany, India and Canada.

Ooe American on the north side of Everest is trying for his second ascent, Peter Jamieson, 31, told a friend recently he left his sunglasses at the top in May 1983 and wants to retrieve them.

He also wants to be the first American to reach the top by two different routes.

Italian Reinhard Patzschneider plans to ski down from the top. The 30-year-old daredevil hopes to make a ski descent of 2,500 vertical metres. He would be the first man to make a ski run from such an extreme altitude.

The seventh expedition consists of at least 30 cadets from Japan's national defence academy, climbing the steep north face on a route another Japanese team first scaled seven years ago.

National Geographic details massive survey of what people can smell

By Warren E. Leary
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — National Geographic magazine asked its readers to stop and smell the paper, and a surprising 1.5 million people from around the world responded in what ended up being the largest survey of smell ever done.

The survey, consisting of questionnaires containing scratch-and-sniff panels, produced an unprecedented amount of information about smell, the least understood of the five senses, the National Geographic Society said last week.

Preliminary findings of the survey, which resulted in so much data that full analysis may take years, confirmed some beliefs about smell and called others into question.

— Women usually smell more acutely than men. However, pregnant women may experience a diminished sense of smell, opposite of what had been believed.

— Both pleasant and unpleasant odours can evoke vivid memories of the past, but this ability appears to decrease gradually with age.

— Odour detection ability declines slowly with age, starting when people are in their 20s, although it remains near youthful levels well into the 60s.

— Contrary to some beliefs, factory workers can identify odours better than people who work outdoors.

— People with allergies can smell as well as those without this

problem.

— Almost two out of three people have suffered at least a temporary loss of smell, usually because of a cold, flu or sinus infection, but only 1.2 per cent have a permanent loss.

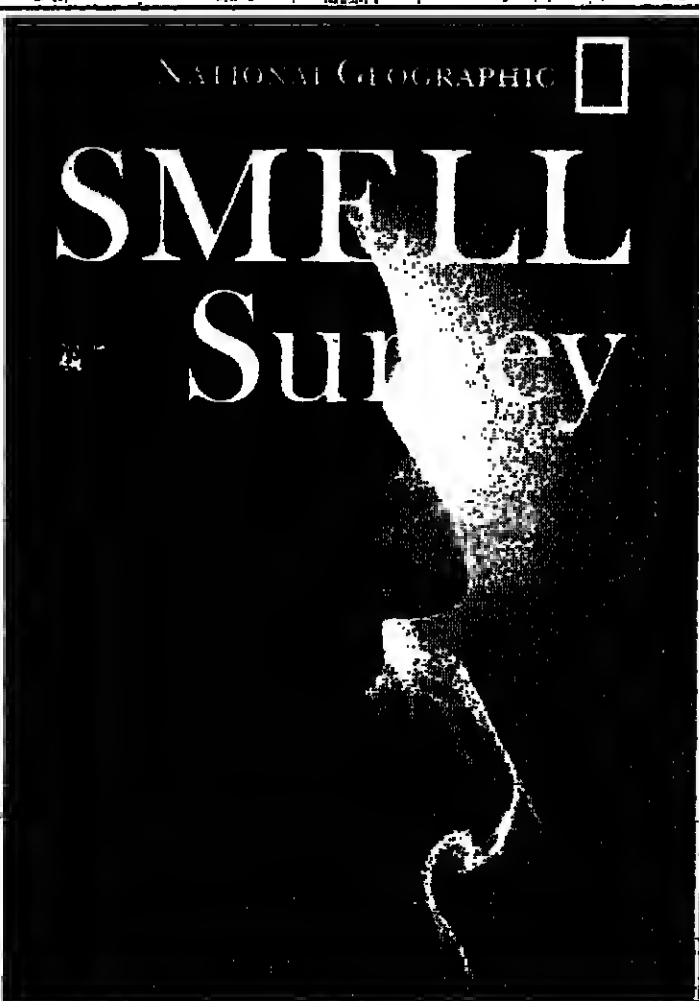
— People in different areas of the world react very differently to a sweaty scent, with almost a third of the people in the United States not being able to pick it up at all.

The survey, mailed to 11 million National Geographic members in the September 1986 magazine, was prepared and conducted by Drs. Avery N. Gilbert and Charles J. Wysocki of the Monell Chemical Senses Centre in Philadelphia, an institution devoted exclusively to the study of taste and smell.

Gilbert and Wysocki said their first findings are based upon a random selection of 26,200 replies from the United States and, for purposes of international comparison, all 100,000 responses from abroad, including Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America and Australia.

Readers were asked to fill out a form that included questions about age, sex, occupation, race and disease history. The form also included six panels containing encapsulated odours of "sweat," bananas, musk, cloves, natural gas and roses.

The researchers found, for instance, that more than 97 per cent of Americans could smell the odour of compounds added to natural gas to give it its characteristic foul warning smell. And ab-



out 58 per cent correctly identified the odour as gas.

However, they found, people over age 60 increasingly rated the odour "not unpleasant," raising questions about the suitability of the smell as a warning of danger.

The scientists said one of the more surprising discoveries of the survey was varying worldwide reaction to the "sweat" scent, a chemical called androstene.

The results indicated widespread "odour blindness" about certain smells, they said.

In the United States, 37 per cent of men and 29 per cent of women could not smell the odour at all. This compared with 24 per cent of the men and 16 per cent of the women in Europe, and 21 per cent of the men and 14 per cent of the women in Africa who could not smell it.

Indonesian playwright stirs audiences

By Oei Eng Goan
Reuters

JAKARTA — Time, and prison terms under two presidents, have mellowed Indonesia's most controversial poet and playwright.

But Wilibrodus Rendra, noted for his biting political satires, is showing that at 53 he can still make audiences sit up and take note.

Rendra's attacks on corruption and abuse of power earned him the wrath of both President Sukarno, independent Indonesia's first ruler, and President Suharto.

Although less outspoken to day, the most recent of his works to reach the stage has reinforced his position as Indonesia's most influential theatrical director.

Rendra has turned the classic "Oedipus Rex" into a vibrant fusion of music and dance owing as much to traditional Indonesian arts as it does to the ancient Greek tragedy.

He is currently preparing Oedipus for performances at a drama festival in the West German city of Cologne next summer.

Another work, "The Ritual of Solomon's Children," which portrays contemporary Indonesian life, will be staged in New York next June.

A Roman Catholic who converted to Islam after directing a play about Muslims, Rendra remains a non-conformist who urges young people to have the courage to stand up for their own principles.

He saw Oedipus as conveying this theme.

"The theme of the tragedy is universal. The courage of Oedipus to fight the ill-fate that befell him is a good example for Indonesia's younger generation," Rendra told Reuters.

Sophocles wrote "Oedipus Rex" more than 2,000 years ago. At that time, the Indonesian island of Java was ruled by Hindu

kings.

Oedipus tries in vain to defy the oracle who prophesied that he would kill his father and marry his mother, Jocasta.

Oedipus blinds himself when the prophecy comes true and Jocasta hangs herself.

"Oedipus's courage in punishing himself is a good example for Indonesian people who still have a basically feudalistic way of life," Rendra said.

But he added that he was not trying to make a specific political point.

"I'm ageing and have a family now and have to think of my future and career," he said.

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Syria thrashes Lebanon and Albania edges Italy in Mediterranean volleyball

LATAKIA, Syria (Agencies) — Tiny Albania, making its first appearance in a major international sports tournament since World War II, won its initial contest Saturday by trouncing Italy in women's volleyball at the start of Mediterranean Games.

The Albanian women lost their first set to Italy 11-15. But they recovered to dominate the last three, winning 15-6, 15-9, 15-4 in the opening match of the preliminary round.

Albania, a Communist country which only recently started to emerge from 40 years of extreme isolationism, is one of 18 countries competing in the two-week sports festival for the Mediterranean basin.

The first medals of the competition were expected later in the day in springboard diving and several swimming events.

Among the preliminary events scheduled were men's and women's volleyball games between rivals Greece and Turkey.

Syria defeated Lebanon 3-2 in another early women's volleyball game.

The games, sponsored by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), have been held every four years since 1951.

"The initial reason was cultural," said Claude Collard, chairman of the international games committee.

"Slowly the standard of the games improved. They are not the same as the Olympic Games, but have produced some excellent champions, like Said Aouita," he said in an interview with the Associated Press.

Aouita is a Moroccan runner who holds four world records.

Syria has spent \$300 million to host this year's event at a newly built sports complex along the sandy beaches just north of the port city of Latakia.

Friday night's opening ceremony, masterminded by Boris Petrov, the Russian who produced the opening of the 1980 Moscow Olympics, featured a simulated battle with fireworks and Syrian troops on the grounds of the 45,000-seat football stadium.

Nuclear free zone

Syria has opened the games with a spectacular ceremony and a call for a nuclear-free zone in the region. Peace was the major theme voiced by President Hafez Al Assad when he spoke during the festivities on Friday night ahead of the start on Saturday of the sporting carnival involving 18 countries.

Some 20,000 Syrian youngsters swirled in a vast tableaux along one side of the newly-finished

main sports stadium in this port city.

"The Mediterranean sea should be a zone free of nuclear weapons," proclaimed the scoreboard after Syrian troops emerged victorious from a mock skirmish and children pretended to die in a nuclear strike.

Assad said: "Our good and peace-loving people... have been up in arms to defend themselves and their land against aggressors." The unnamed foe was Israel, Syria's sworn enemy.

Israel is the only major Mediterranean coastal state never invited to the Mediterranean Games, which started in the Egyptian port of Alexandria in 1951.

Syria has already achieved a measure of cohabitation by bringing together such countries as Greece and Turkey, Algeria and Morocco, Egypt and Libya. There was no indication how Assad expected them to agree on a nuclear-free zone.



FLYING ACES: Al Jazireh Club defender Najib and Ramtha Clubs in the Premier League Soccer Al Banna (No. 15) heads the ball off his net during a Championship. The match ended with a goalless draw (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

QPR stretches lead in English soccer league

LONDON (Agencies) — Three goals by Gary Bannister enabled Queens Park Rangers to beat West London rival Chelsea 3-1 Saturday and open up a five point lead atop the English First Division soccer standings.

Brazilian star Mirandinha bagged his first two goals in the English League as his side, Newcastle United, tied 2-2 at Manchester United, while Liverpool, playing its first home game of the season, trimmed Oxford United 2-0 before 42,000 fans at Anfield.

Champion Everton squandered an early lead and lost 3-1 at Luton, while a disputed last minute penalty enabled Tottenham Hotspur to edge Southampton 2-1 in the standings and move into second place in the standings.

Tottenham's north London

neighbour, Arsenal, posted an impressive 1-0 victory at Nottingham Forest, while newly promoted Derby County won 2-1 at Norwich City.

Portsmouth, the other promoted side, allowed visiting Charlton Athletic to gain its first point of the campaign after a 1-1 tie, while Wimbledon and West Ham United also wound up all square at 1-1 in an all-London clash.

Sheffield Wednesday, still looking for its first victory of the season, tumbled 2-3 at home to Watford.

Queens Park Rangers had the cushion of a four-point lead over Chelsea going to the match, which ended in a field invasion by rival fans, who were dispersed by police on horseback.

Bannister struck in the 36th, 74th and 88th minutes, before

Gordon Durie replied for Chelsea.

At old Trafford, some 45,000 fans saw Mirandinha twice give Newcastle the lead, in the seventh and 28th minutes. The home side's first equaliser came from Danish winger Jesper Olsen while the second came from the penalty spot by Scottish international Brian McClair.

Major ground repairs meant Liverpool had to postpone its opening home match and Republic of Ireland international John Aldridge celebrated the delayed season opened by scoring against his former club, Oxford United, after 18 minutes. John Barnes, making his home debut for Liverpool, added a second before half time, but Oxford kept the mersey-side stars at bay after the break.

Reference Point's St. Leger triumph secures slot for Cecil in record books

LONDON (R) — Trainer Henry Cecil made history in the grand manner when Reference Point won the St. Leger, the final English classic of the year, on Saturday.

It was Cecil's 147th victory of the season, passing the previous best for one season of 146 set by John Day 120 years ago — and he achieved the new mark with two months to spare.

But Cecil was not at Doncaster to watch the race. He was away in the United States and listened to the race on radio.

Epsom Derby winner Reference Point was sent off at 11-4 on, made all the running as usual, and at the post had one and a half lengths to spare over Mountain Kingdom (9-1).

Third placed Dry Dock (11-1) finished a respectable eight lengths away in third place.

It was another cracking performance by Reference Point, ridden with supreme understanding by Steve Cauthen. The horse is now the greatest money earner in the history of the British turf, the prize money on Saturday taking his total to £774,275 (\$1.27 million).

Dry Dock with Willie Carson and outsider King of Mercia (Ray Cochrane) kept the colt in their sights during the early part of the 14½ furlong (2,900 metres) trip with the rest of the seven-strong field in Indian File.

Up the long five-furlong (1,000-metre) straight, Reference Point was still going well but Dry Dock's effort was spent two fur-

longs (400 metres) from home.

Mountain Kingdom, ridden by Pat Eddery who won the Leger last year on Moon Madness, looked dangerous for a moment with a furlong (200 metres) left.

But as at Epsom, and as at Ascot in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes in July, Reference Point found another gear and was going away again at the end.

Cecil is in the United States buying yearlings and missed the historic moment.

But he dashed back to his hotel room and heard the race on radio.

Cecil said in a telephone interview on television: "I worked Reference Point on Wednesday and there was nothing more I could do after that. I had to come

here because I have to look ahead to next year."

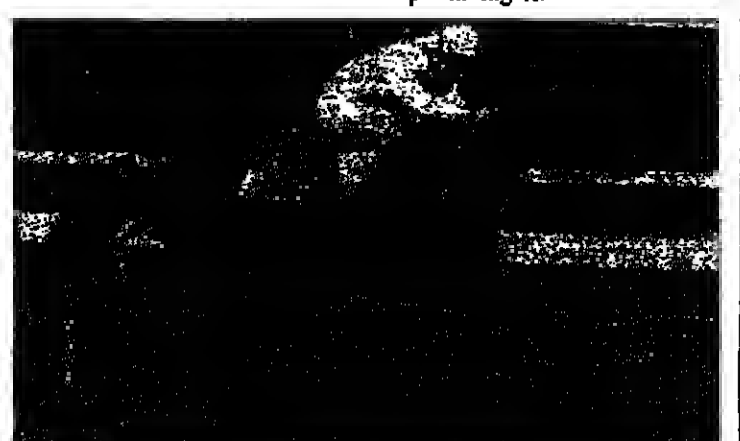
Reference Point will probably take his chance in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp early next month.

The colt was quoted as 6-4 favourite and could clash with Arlington Million winner Manila, French Derby hero Natroun and globe-trotting mare Triptych.

Cauthen said: "It was easier than it looked and will have put the horse spot on for the Arc."

Owner Louis Freedman said: "I was a bit worried about the distance but Steve said every time he asked for a bit more the response was immediate."

Eddery said: "My horse gave me a great ride but Reference Point just found that bit extra and kept finding it."



French challenge: Triptych and Tony Cruz pose a threat to Reference Point's winning strake (File photo)

S. Korea to delay receipt of Pyongyang's letter on Olympics

SEOUL (R) — South Korea said it would receive a letter from the North Korean Olympic Committee, but not on Saturday as proposed by the North.

South Korean Olympic Committee Chief Kim Chong-Ha told reporters the North, in a broadcast by Pyongyang Radio on Friday night, said it would deliver at the Panmunjom border village an important letter about next year's Seoul Olympics.

The radio said the letter was addressed to Kim from his northern opposite number, Kim Yu-Sun, but gave no other details. "We will receive the letter at another mutually agreeable date through consultation between the two sides," Kim said, adding Pyongyang had unilaterally scheduled the delivery for Saturday afternoon.

North and South Korea, enemies since their 1950-1953 war, have been discussing through mediation by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Northern demands for sharing the Seoul games.

The IOC is trying to avert a possible North Korean-led Communist boycott of the 1988 Olympics, originally awarded exclusively to Seoul in 1981.

Spokeswoman Michele Verdier told Reuters from IOC headquarters in Lausanne last month the committee had rejected a North Korean request for fresh talks with South Korea on Pyongyang's latest proposals after last July's fourth inter-Korean meeting.

"We are waiting for North Korea's acceptance or rejection of the offer made here after last month's fourth round of IOC-organised talks," she said.

Pyongyang's latest demands were scaled down to hosting five full events, including the soccer tournament, and one partial event from its previous insistence on eight full competitions, a third of the 23 Olympic sports.

Seoul has accepted the IOC offer to give Pyongyang a larger share by including women's volleyball and the 100-km cycle race. This was in addition to the full programmes of table tennis and archery and one of four preliminary soccer rounds already offered.

Samaranch: Talks to continue

In Latakia, the head of the IOC said on Saturday talks would continue with North Korea on its demand for more events in next year's Seoul Olympic Games.

IOC chairman Juan Antonio Samaranch told a news conference it would not be possible for North Korea to host more than five events in the games. "However, we will keep negotiating with North and South Korea. We will never close the door," he said.

The IOC has agreed that North Korea can host cycling, table tennis, soccer qualifiers, men's volleyball and women's basketball.

Samaranch, who is attending the 10th Mediterranean Games in Latakia, said riots in South Korea in June and recent protests by strikers had caused the IOC concern.

Premier League standings

AMMAN (J.T.) — Results of Premier League matches played on Friday in the 10th week of Jordan's Soccer Championship:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Al Faisali 2							
Al Ramtha 0							
Al-Hussein 1							
Al Jazira 0							
Adduffatein	8	7	0	1	11	2	14
Al Ramtha	9	5	3	1	10	3	13
Al Qadisiya	10	5	2	3	11	7	12
Al Hussein	10	4	3	3	10	6	11
Al Jazira	10	4	2	4	9	6	10
Al Faisali	10	3	4	3	5	6	10
Al Abiri	10	2	4	4	4	9	8
Al Arabi	10	2	4	4	4	8	8
Amman	9	2	3	4	6	10	7
Al Baq'a	10	0	3	7	4	21	3

Note: Adduffatein Club still have two matches to play in the tournament. The ties, postponed from the first leg matches, are slated for Sunday against Amman Club and Sept. 28 against Ramtha Club.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Race driver "critical but stable," after crash

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (R) — Colombian racing driver Roberto Guerrero was in a "critical but stable" condition on Friday night following his accident at the Indianapolis circuit on Thursday, a hospital spokesman said. Guerrero has been unconscious since the test session crash and his breathing is being helped by a respirator, the spokesman added. The Colombian was hurt when his car hit the wall surrounding the track. A wheel snapped off and struck his head.

Soviet wins middle heavyweight title

OSTRAVA, Czechoslovakia (AP) — Anatoly Khrapaty of the Soviet Union on Friday won the middle heavyweight class of the world weightlifting championships for the second straight year, the news agency CTK reported. Khrapaty snatched 185 kilograms and jerked 232.5 for a total lift of 417.5 kilograms. He also set a world record outside the competition with a jerk of 233.5 kilograms. That bested the record of 230 kilograms set by Victor Solodov of the Soviet Union in 1984. Bulgaria earlier won the first five division titles in this year's competition, and Hungary took the light heavyweight division. Three weight classes remain to be decided. Winning the silver medal in the middle heavyweight class was Ivan Tcharkarov of Bulgaria with a total lift of 412.5 kilograms (187.5-225 kg). The bronze medalist was Slawomir Zawada of Poland with an aggregate of 395 kilograms (180-215 kg). Four world records have been set in Ostrava so far this year.

Dispute may disrupt cricket T.V. coverage

NEW DELHI (R) — A dispute over payments may cause a television blackout of next month's World Cup cricket tournament, in India and Pakistan, a spokesman for the event's organisers has said. "We will not allow Doodardharan (Indian television) to cover the World Cup if they do not pay us at least our cost in staging the event," Inderjit Singh Bindra, convener of the World Cup management committee, told Reuters on Friday.

Jansher tames compatriot in tennis final

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — World junior champion and top seed Jansher Khan needed only 30 minutes to beat fellow Pakistani Qamar Zaman 9-2, 9-0, 9-3 in the Malaysian Open squash championship finals on Saturday. Jansher, ranked fourth in the world, fought for every point and frustrated his 37-year-old opponent by retrieving every shot he played. Top seed Lucy Soutter of England outplayed compatriot Alison Cumings 9-5, 9-4, 9-0 in a 36-minute women's final.

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Iraq's new oil pipeline is running at full capacity

ANKARA (R) — Iraq's new crude oil export pipeline to the Turkish Mediterranean coast, parallel to an older line, has been running at full capacity since opening in July, Turkish energy ministry sources said on Friday.

The two 1,300-kilometre pipelines from Kirkuk to Yumurtalik have a combined capacity of 1.5 million barrels per day (b/d), with 500,000 b/d passing through the new one.

The pipelines and a link to Saudi Arabia's Red Sea port of Yanbu are the main channels for Iraq's vital oil exports, with its economy hard hit by the seven-year-long war with Iran.

Its Gulf outlets were severed after the war broke out in September 1980, while a line through Syria to the Mediterranean was subsequently closed.

The sources said inauguration of the new line had boosted Turkey's total storage capacity to cover needs for about 90 days, the level sought by the International Energy Agency.

Turkey imports most of its oil from Iran and Iraq and the sources said this was expected to continue.

The weekly economic Ankara Review said imports from Iran totalled 3.96 million tonnes, up sharply from 1.33 million in the same 1986 period, while purchases

from Iraq were 3.37 million, down slightly from 3.69 million. The two countries and Libya accounted for about 84 per cent of total imports of 10.53 million tonnes in the seven months after 8.99 million a year earlier, Ankara said.

Iran's share of total Turkish oil supplies fell to 11.9 per cent last year after nearly 37 per cent in 1985 because of disagreement over counter-trade arrangements.

The ministry sources said Turkey's total oil-related consumption this year would be nearly 19 million tonnes after 17.3 million in 1986, with domestic output expected to rise to 2.5 million tonnes from 2.1 million.

They said the state-owned Turkish Petroleum Company (TPAO) had doubled oil output in the last few years to between 34,000 and 35,000 b/d, while Royal Dutch Shell was producing around 18,000 b/d and Mobil of the United States 4,000 b/d.

The sources said Turkish gas production from two sites, in Thrace and near the Syrian border, was expected to exceed 500,000 million cubic metres this year.

A pipeline carrying Soviet natural gas to Turkey was inaugurated in June. It will eventually supply six billion cubic metres annually.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Sept. 5, '87 and ending Wednesday, Sept. 9, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	500	648	1.250	1.280	1.000
Petra Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	6663	12633	2.000	1.900	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	12657	21032	1.670	1.680	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	21480	253733	1.200	1.190	1.000
Housing Bank	2500	4853	1.690	1.680	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	2600	5722	2.250	2.220	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	—	—	—	—	5.000
Bank of Jordan	2157	35556	16.400	16.450	5.000
Arab Bank	320	37427	117.500	116.500	10.000
Jordan National Bank	3280	18310	2.470	2.480	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	3250	3217	1.000	0.950	1.000
Jordan Islamic Investment House	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	14485	17709	1.720	1.720	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	28729	20561	0.670	0.680	1.000
National Financial Investments	2650	4108	1.550	1.550	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	3553	2491	0.690	0.720	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	4558	4129	0.900	0.910	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	5000	6600	1.310	1.320	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	125	1878	15.100	15.000	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	3664	20790	5.750	5.740	1.000
REPCO Life Insurance	198	168	0.850	0.850	1.000
Jordan Insurance	5114	56248	10.950	11.000	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	4370	3581	0.810	0.820	1.000
Damascus Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	5500	5024	0.900	0.970	1.000
Universal Insurance	400	276	0.690	0.690	1.000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Al-Indhar Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Abhiya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	4630	4389	0.860	0.950	1.000
Services and industries					
General Investments	7822	9496	1.100	1.320	1.000
Imma for Investment and Financial Facilities	12655	8111	0.640	0.630	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment	61370	26396	0.440	0.450	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)	400	160	0.390	0.400	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	4004	2598	0.650	0.650	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	184	23	0.620	0.630	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajecro	90	28	0.820	0.810	1.000
Jordan Electric Power	6847	10314	1.540	1.570	1.000
Irish District Electricity	1210	1241	0.980	1.000	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	1110	966	0.870	0.870	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Dairy	17650	19598	1.080	1.120	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	4468	9161	2.050	2.050	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	39000	19000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Inara)	3511	8926	2.800	2.800	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	8043	12199	1.490	1.510	1.000
Aladdin Industries	16900	16549	1.000	0.970	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	87844	151797	1.680	1.810	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	500	2185	4.400	4.370	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	1200	1236	1.020	1.030	1.000
Chemical Industries	29316	34491	1.150	1.140	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	5455	2782	0.480	0.510	1.000
Al Dawra for Development and Investment	10680	14615	1.360	1.360	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	4050	3907	0.970	0.980	1.000
General Mining	1526	2354	1.500	1.530	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	2646	19201	7.250	7.250	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	8379	1928	0.220	0.230	5.000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	3500	910	0.290	0.280	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	150	119	0.750	0.810	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	750	870	1.160	1.160	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	300	240	0.800	0.800	1.000
Radio Industrial for Plastic Bags	500	1220	2.430	2.440	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	12000	6105	0.520	0.510	1.000
Jordan Rockwood Industries	1000	750	0.790	0.750	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	1000	750	0.790	0.750	1.000
Jordan Hume Mineral	1000	750	0.790	0.750	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	1000	750	0.790	0.750	1.000
Woolen Industries	1050	546	0.470	0.520	1.000
Jordan Tanning	25572	56111	2.000	2.230	1.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarettes	30	376	12.500	12.600	1.000
Jordan Brewery	—	—	—	—	5.000
Mar Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	53200	51331	0.940	0.930	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	37381	38131	0.970	1.020	1.000
Jordan Syntho Chemicals	34346	98983	3.110	3.120	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	40147	39530	0.970	0.980	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	213	186	0.870	0.870	1.000
Grand total	993,036	1,518,966			

Saudis reject swing producer role to curb oil overproduction

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Saudi Arabia's oil minister said his country will not act as swing producer or strongarm other countries to control overproduction within the oil group, a respected oil newsletter reported Saturday.

The Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) quoted Sheikh Hisham Nazer as saying "we will not appoint ourselves custodians of the policies of OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) nor will we be willing to play the role of swing producer at all."

Sheikh Nazer spoke after two days of OPEC committee meetings in Vienna Thursday and Friday designed to find ways to curb overproduction by members of the 13-member group.

MEES said Sheikh Nazer's remarks, in an interview, were largely a response to remarks by Iran's Deputy Oil Minister Hosein Ardabili, that Iran and Saudi Arabia could cooperate in OPEC despite their political differences.

But Ardabili said conditions for this were that Saudi Arabia pressure its Gulf allies, Iraq, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, to stop producing beyond their OPEC-set quotas and that Saudi Arabia act as swing producer, dropping its own production for a period to make up for overproduction by others.

Saudi Arabia is OPEC's largest producer with a quota of 4.3 million barrels a day. Sheikh Nazer said Saudi Arabia is not overproducing.

Sheikh Nazer was asked if

Saudi Arabia could cooperate with Iran despite their bitter feud over Mecca riots July 31 in which 275 Iranian pilgrims were killed and over Saudi Arabia's support for Iraq in its war with Iran.

He replied: "We will work with all the OPEC members for the benefit of the organisation."

But on pressing its Gulf allies, the Saudi minister said, "we cannot single out any particular country for overproduction. What I want to say is that we will not take any personal or individual action as the government of Saudi Arabia."

This appeared to conflict with a statement in Vienna Friday by Oil Minister Riwanu Lukman of Nigeria, the OPEC president, who said Saudi Arabia had agreed to "use its good offices to try to influence the level of production in the (Gulf) area."

The OPEC committee decided Friday that a three-member group including Mr. Lukman and his counterparts from Indonesia and Venezuela would tour all 13 OPEC nations seeking support for a tightening of oil production controls.

OPEC leaders will be asked to consider on-site inspection of member countries' oil production, according to a communiqué. OPEC's current total produc-

tion quota of 16.6 million barrels a day is reportedly being exceeded by more than three million barrels a day, according to specialised oil publications.

The committee meeting in Vienna concluded that production was more than 16.6 million barrels a day but well below the outside estimates.

MEES, which is considered highly knowledgeable on oil matters, called the OPEC committee judgement "rather too generous," siding with the higher estimates.

MEES reported that one matter given priority in the Vienna talks was bringing Iraq back into the quota fold.

Iraq is currently outside the quota system, refusing to accept any quota which is lower than Iran's, its foe in the 7-year-old Gulf war. Iran's quota is 2.4 million barrels a day.

Iraq was estimated by MEES to be producing at 2.2 million barrels a day in August with an increase to 2.5 million barrels foreseen this month as full capacity is reached by a new pipeline through Turkey.

MEES said a new effort to tackle the Iraq problem may involve reviving a proposal by Kuwait last June that Iraq's proposed quota be boosted to the same level as Iran. Under the plan the other OPEC members would take a proportional cut to make up for the extra oil produced by Iraq.

At the time the proposal was refused by Iran.

U.S. trade deficit hits record

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A plunge in U.S. exports helped propel the nation's trade deficit to a record \$16.5 billion in July, the fourth monthly increase in a row, the government reported Friday.

The Commerce Department said the widening of the gap between exports and imports followed a \$15.7 billion deficit in June.

For the first seven months of 1987, the trading shortfall has been accumulating at an annual rate of \$168.7 billion — above the record \$156.2 deficit for all of 1986.

U.S. exports, which had been rising through most of 1987, did a turnaround in July and dropped by five per cent, to \$21.0 billion.

Manufactured goods accounted for much of this drop, falling from \$14.5 billion in June to \$13.8 billion in July.

Imports, meanwhile, rose two per cent to \$37.5 billion in July. Most of this increase was due to higher petroleum imports — up to \$4.4 billion from \$3.7 billion in June.

Friday's report was viewed by economists as further evidence that the long-awaited turnaround in trade accounts has yet to materialise — despite a U.S. dollar that is nearly 50 per cent weaker against other key currencies than it was two years ago.

A weaker dollar should make imported goods more expensive

and U.S. products more competitive abroad.

Initially, a fall in the value of a currency can worsen a trade deficit through higher import prices. But, after a while, the higher prices are supposed to coax consumers away from the foreign goods and to less expensive domestic alternatives.

Analysts had expected to see this later effect by now.

The new report was expected to make it even harder for President Ronald Reagan's administration to battle tough trade legislation before a House-Senate conference committee that the administration considers protectionist.

The closely watched deficit with Japan fell in July, to \$3.1 billion from \$3.4 billion in June.

But the deficit with most of this nation's other major trading partners worsened. The deficit with Western Europe rose to \$3.9 billion in July from \$2.9 billion in June. The deficit with Canada increased to \$645 million in July from \$531 million in the previous month.

The trade shortfall with nations that make up the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) rose in July to \$1.7 billion from \$1.4 billion in June.

Despite claims earlier this year by the Reagan administration that the trade deficit had bottomed out, the gap has widened in every month from April to

July.

The trade deficit was \$11.9 billion in January, \$14.4 billion in February, \$12.9 billion in March, \$13.0 billion in April, \$14.0 billion in May and \$15.7 billion in June.

The July shortfall was the largest single-month deficit ever recorded, surpassing a \$16.1 billion deficit posted in July 1986.

The United States retained a trade surplus in only one area in July, agricultural products, where exports surpassed imports by \$35.8 million, up from the \$105 million surplus in June.

New automobile imports from Japan increased two per cent in July to \$2.0 billion. Auto imports from Canada were down 40 per cent to \$556.5 million.

And auto imports from other countries, including Korea and Taiwan, were down four per cent to \$1.5 billion.

Economists caution about reading too much into an individual month's figures. The trade figures are not adjusted for inflation or to remove predictable seasonal variations.

The report focuses only on merchandise trade and does not include trade in services or investments.

These categories are reflected in a separate trade report, called the current accounts deficit, which is released each three-month quarter.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: It would be advisable to stick with conventional reliable ideas and practices today. If you allow older, depressive persons to control your opinions, you're in for trouble. Study your position before you act.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): A change of attitude can be helpful when dealing with others. Be more thoughtful of older friends. Make sure your car is running smoothly if you go out tonight.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): If you seek out new sources, you can get some fine financial advice. Rid yourself of old-fashioned ideas and practices which don't apply anymore. Be understanding.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): You need family, but always get his spirit, supporters, and pull you out of that "blue funk" you've been in. Avoid an associate who tries to put down your ideas.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): Let people see the logical side of your mind, and you can be quite impressive. More affection and thoughtfulness toward your mate is important now.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Give up on a past "friend" who always depresses you, and welcome a new one who can help you as much as you help him or her. Attend to your financial affairs tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): Settle a difference between yourself and a family tie who can introduce you to some important people. You may have some added expenses, so tend to your credit.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Stay away from boring people and routines. Be alert for new opportunities and ideas. Plan a trip which will broaden your horizons and get

you out of a jam.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Make sure you keep any promises you've made even though this may temporarily weaken your bank account. Be sure that your advice is given on good advice.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Settle the source of a long-standing worry, and you can better deal with present situations. Listen to the advice of a co-worker who you know has good judgment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): Don't rely so much on outsiders when your intuition is working so well. Stop being such a hypochondriac, and use your mind to convince your body that it is well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): A little more enthusiasm in your regular activities can bring you better results. Don't go off on any tangents. Visit some acquaintances and old friends this evening.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Give full attention to the here and now, and get everything you've been neglecting in order. If you entertain tonight, you can make an excellent impression on guests.

IT YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY: He or she will have a keen insight to new ideas and attitudes, but may tend to try to hold on to the past for a long time. Be sure to send your child to very up-to-date schools. A fine salesperson, who could be very, very successful with the right assistance, is indicated here, whether male or female. Encourage gentle sports, if any.

"The Stars Impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Soldiers urge Aquino to pardon coup leader

MANILA (R) — Philippine President Corazon Aquino might consider a suggestion to pardon the leader of last month's military revolt because of growing clamour from soldiers to forgive him, a senior military officer said on Saturday.

Armed Forces Deputy Chief Maj.-Gen. Eduardo Ermita told reporters the government and military officials might discuss a pardon for Col. Gregorio Honasan because many of the 160,000-strong military openly supported his cause.

"You might say really that such an opening has been made. There is a possibility that it can be discussed," Gen. Ermita said.

Col. Honasan became a hero for his role in the February 1986 civilian-backed military revolt that toppled Ferdinand Marcos and swept Mrs. Aquino to power. On Aug. 28 he led hundreds of soldiers in an attack on the presidential palace and seized major military camps.

He has been the target of a nationwide manhunt since troops loyal to Mrs. Aquino put down the revolt 17 hours after it began. At least 53 people were killed and 300 wounded.

Gen. Ermita said he agreed with the objectives of Col. Honasan and his men, who demanded major reforms in the military as well as a tougher policy against Communist and Muslim insurgents.

"Because of the valid issues raised by Col. Honasan (soldiers) thought that he should be given amnesty," Gen. Ermita said.

Gen. Ermita was one of the few senior officers inside Camp Aguinaldo, the military general

headquarters, when it was attacked and held by rebel troops for several hours.

Although the rebels surrounded the main headquarters building, which was burned during the fighting, Gen. Ermita and the others were unharmed.

He said the military was preparing rebellion charges against Col. Honasan and 30 officers under him, but added: "It seems that the door may be opened for a later discussion on amnesty for Honasan."

"But for the moment I can say that the rules shall apply as it is being applied right now for those personnel who were involved (in past coup attempts)," Gen. Ermita said.

He said Communist rebels waging a guerrilla war across the country for the past 15 years have intensified attacks since the coup, staging 93 between Aug. 28 and Sept. 5.

Supporters of President Aquino launched a new movement on Saturday in an attempt to rekindle the "people power" support which swept her into office 18 months ago.

The "Coalition For Peace" called on various groups which backed the military revolt that ousted Ferdinand Marcos last year, to join in a "peace procession" through Manila on Saturday.

"The movement aims to defend the duly constituted civilian authority against any attempt,

overt or covert, at establishing military dominance," the organisers of the new movement said in a statement.

"It also aims to push for and support moves by the government to institute the structural changes in Philippine society that are the foundations of genuine peace and justice," it added.

The members of the Coalition For Peace are from the so-called "cause-oriented groups" which supported Mrs. Aquino's candidacy against Marcos in 1986 presidential polls.

The presidential palace said late on Friday Central Bank and finance officials as well as several government bureau directors have resigned to allow Mrs. Aquino to make top-to-bottom changes in the government.

In the House of Representatives, several members on Friday called for a major military revamp to go with reforms and higher pay for officers and soldiers.

U.S. backs Aquino

In Washington, the Reagan administration and Congress have formed a united front against insurgents in the Philippines, warning them against trying to drive President Corazon Aquino out of office in a coup.

Secretary of State George Shultz, in an interview on Friday with Reuters and the International Television News Agency Visnews, expressed confidence in Mrs. Aquino.

"I think the good judgment of the Philippine people is that they want civilian government. They want Mrs. Aquino. They want strength and she will give it to them," he said.

Roh rules out army intervention in free S. Korean election

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's ruling party chief on Saturday reaffirmed his democracy pledge and ruled out military intervention hampering December's free presidential vote.

Democratic Justice Party (DJP) President Roh Tae-Woo said in a statement, marking his scheduled departure on Sunday for the United States and Japan, that he had the firm backing of the country's powerful military in a drive for democracy.

"There are some people who are worried, out of pure concern, about the possibility of military intervention and even people who maliciously exaggerate the possibility."

"But, as a man who knows the military, I will say with full confidence that the military, too, is ardently hoping that my June 29 declaration will be translated into reality faithfully on a stable basis," Mr. Roh, a former general, said.

There have been persistent rumours that the military might intervene in South Korean politics, including direct presidential polls.

The rumours spread particularly during violence-prone labour strife that has racked the country's main industries and caused social unrest since Mr. Roh made the abrupt declaration for democracy.

His decision, endorsed by President Chun Doo Hwan two days later, came after nearly three weeks of violent street protests across the nation against Mr. Chun's authoritarian rule.

In contrast to the labour turmoil, ruling and opposition parties, after seven years of bitter confrontation, have made steady political headway since July and agreed on a draft constitution to scrap the indirect Electoral College system for choosing the country's president.

The rival camps failed to introduce the draft to parliament formally on Friday because of differences over when to hold general elections after the agreed December polls aimed at picking a successor to Mr. Chun, due to stand down next February at the end of a seven-year term.

Bhutto: Mid-term election is the only solution

KARACHI (R) — A mid-term election was the only solution to the political crisis in Pakistan, Benazir Bhutto said on Saturday. "A mid-term election should be held soon to solve the political crisis," the daughter of the executed former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto told Reuters in an interview.

The 34-year-old chief of her father's Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) said: "Martial law is no answer to the political problems."

Her mid-term election demand has already been rejected by President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo who have repeatedly said general elections would be held at the end of the present parliament's term in 1990.

Gen. Zia, who gained a five-year mandate through a nationwide referendum in 1984, organised 000-party elections in February, 1985, and lifted nine-year-old martial law in December, 1985.

"The government did not listen to Miss Bhutto's demand in April last year for an autumn election, put forward after her return from self-imposed exile."

She said her party, which according to her was the biggest and best organised, had not changed its line and wanted full democracy instead of limited or partial democracy which would not serve the purpose.

"The line since (April) 1986 has not been changed," Miss Bhutto said.

She said: "A civilian regime with a narrow political base will not be able to handle the manifold problems created during the long years of martial law."

Several politicians including Shah Ahmad Noorani, chief of Jamiat-ul-Ulema-i-Pakistan (JUP), have demanded an election on proportionate representation to solve political problems.

The new demand had been rejected by the main opposition group, the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), which had demanded "unadulterated democracy."

The government plans to hold local bodies (municipal) elections on a non-party basis at the end of this year.

The MRD, which boycotted the non-party 1985 general election, has not issued its policy in the absence of local bodies election rules but most of the group plan to put up what they call independent candidates.

Miss Bhutto, who plans to marry Pakistani businessman Asif Ali Zardari, said: "I will marry in Karachi in December after the return of my mother (Nusrat) in November."

Pope scolds Americans

NEW ORLEANS (R) — In a straight-talking start to his tour of the United States, Pope John Paul II has scolded Americans for abandoning essential values and spoken candidly to Jews about their disputes with the Vatican.

In whirlwind visits to Miami and Columbia, South Carolina, the Pope maintained the hard-hitting, unusually candid style that has marked his trip since arriving on Thursday.

He told 60,000 people at an ecumenical service in Columbia on Friday that there was already "much breakdown and pain in your own society because fundamental values, essential to the well-being of individuals, families and the entire nation, are being emptied of their real content."

He said sins against love and life — a reference to infidelity and abortion — were often painted as examples of progress and emancipation but were the results of a false notion of individual freedom.

He said it would be a great tragedy for humanity if the United States lost sight of the true meaning of freedom.

Earlier on Friday in Miami, where he started his nine-day tour, the Pope appeared to have charmed a group of Jewish leaders and to have done much to repair severe damage caused to Catholic-Jewish relations by his audience in June with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim.

In Columbia, the heart of America's fundamentalist Protestant Bible Belt, where Catholics are a tiny minority, the Pope met 27 leaders of major Protestant

denominations and Orthodox faiths.

They discussed attempts to increase Christian unity and afterwards the Protestant leaders expressed optimism about further progress.

Some fundamentalist preachers have dubbed the Pope the "anti-christ", but his welcome in Columbia was warm despite a sparse turnout on its route through the city.

The 67-year-old Pontiff later ended a gruelling day, during which he travelled nearly 1,300 miles, by flying to New Orleans, Louisiana, one of America's most colourful cities, and a Catholic stronghold in the predominantly Protestant south.

The Pope was welcomed in the city with the foot-stomping rhythms of a Dixieland jazz band.

A cheering, flag-waving crowd of 300 people was on hand to greet the Pope. In what city officials described as "an authentic New Orleans welcome," the 11-piece Olympia brass band stood on the tarmac and filled the air with soulful rhythms of "When the Saints Go Marching In."

Former President Jimmy Carter rushed to his brother's hospital bedside after learning he had cancer and then to a meeting with Pope John Paul II in Columbia on Friday.

When Mr. Carter was informed his 50-year-old brother Billy had cancer of the pancreas he first cancelled scheduled talks with the Pope but then went ahead with the meeting.

Pinochet promises 'heavy hand' against subversives

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — President Augusto Pinochet marked the 14th anniversary of the coup that put him in power by pledging to use "the heavy hand" against leftist subversives.

Violence erupted after midnight Friday, leaving two people dead and at least four injured.

In a 2 1/2-hour speech at the anniversary ceremonies, Gen. Pinochet said political leftists have become increasingly violent, and "with the failure of their strategy of strikes and protests they have tried to launch a large-scale terrorist action."

"To stop them ... what is needed is the heavy hand, the heaviest possible," he said.

Unidentified "terrorist elements" hurled a bomb at a patrol car from a speeding automobile, killing one officer and seriously

wounding another, police said.

In a separate incident, a young man was killed by the bomb he was planting at a railroad at a Santiago suburb.

Three people, including a 2-year-old, were badly burned when a firebomb exploded in a bus nine blocks from the presidential palace. The government news agency Orbe said two "criminals" detonated the bomb.

Police also reported scattered anti-government demonstrations at several slums ringing the capital city of 4.5 million people. Demonstrators chanting slogans against the Pinochet government burned tyres and garbage to block traffic at intersections.

Meanwhile, hundreds of pro-government demonstrators staged a noisy rally in the fashionable Providencia neighbourhood of Santiago.

Colombo imposes curfew on eastern district

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Officials imposed a 12-hour curfew in the eastern district of Batticaloa on Saturday to keep Tamil separatists from holding a meeting to discuss the Indian-brokered peace accord, area residents said.

State-owned radio interrupted its morning music programme to announce the curfew, but it did not give any explanation.

The curfew has been imposed to prevent the Liberation Tigers from holding a meeting which the rebels said was to explain their stand on the peace accord," The Rev. Pius Ratnaraja, a member

of the Batticaloa Citizens Committee, told the Associated Press by telephone.

Rev. Ratnaraja said armed Tamil militants were seen walking around Batticaloa town early Saturday, and Sri Lankan police and Indian troops were patrolling the area.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was the largest among militant Tamil groups that controlled most of the northern Jaffna peninsula before fighting ended there with the signing of a peace accord between Sri Lanka and India.

The July accord aimed to end

the four-year insurgency of minority Tamils who seek an independent homeland in eastern and northern provinces they dominate.

Tamil rebel groups were not a party to the peace pact, under which they have been surrendering their weapons to the more than 9,000 Indian peacekeeping troops that have fanned out through Tamil-dominated areas.

The pact called for the government to give limited autonomy to the Tamil-dominated provinces until a referendum could be held on a permanent government over the region.

Violating arms traders get U.S. licenses

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. licences to export arms have been repeatedly issued to companies after they sold weapons illegally to Chile, Argentina, Iran and Libya, Congress was told.

Sen. David Pryor, a Democrat, cited a company called American Aviation Parts, which pleaded guilty in 1984 to selling aircraft parts to Chile. Since then it has received 65 licences.

He said other companies have been given licences after they have been accused of making illegal sales. He said Armotex, Inc. got a licence to export tank parts three days after it was named in an indictment for the sale of aircraft to Libya. He added that another licence was given 10 months later.

Another, EMGE Aeromarine International, pleaded guilty in 1985 to shipping unlicensed military equipment to both Argentina and Chile. It received 10 licences in 1986. The list given to reporters did not say for which countries the licensed arms were destined.

The licences were issued by the State Department's Office of Munitions Control, which deals with \$14.9 billion worth of U.S. arms exports a year. Sen. Pryor said it had not debarred a company in four years and did not keep a list of potential violators.

The department says it does not issue licences for export to banned countries.

Sen. Pryor's speech was prepared for a hearing of the Senate Government Affairs Committee.

The list of cases cited Ronald and Monte Semler, who received 124 licences after being indicted on charges of shipping 85 helicopters to North Korea. The case has

not yet been tried.

It is rare for anyone who wants to violate a ban on arms exports to apply for a licence, explained H. Allee Holmes, assistant secretary of state for political-military affairs such people evade the controls illegally, he said.

"It would be very helpful if such people would advertise imminent violations of our law in this way," he added in testimony to the committee.

"Unfortunately they don't."

He said his department has no power to bar issuing a licence to a person unless there is "conclusive proof of the violation established as a result of a criminal conviction or a separate administrative 'due process' procedure."

The United States has complete arms embargoes against 28 countries including the Soviet Bloc, Libya, Iran and South Africa. The office of munitions control has not licensed any weapons for exports to those countries, he said.

The State Department approved almost \$15 billion worth of licences for arms and other military equipment in the last fiscal year, but didn't check very closely whether the weapons were going to terrorists or unfriendly countries, the General Accounting Office (GAO) said Friday.

The report by the congressional investigatory agency said the licensing procedure within the Office of Munition Control (OMC) is so loose that "export licence application data and information were not routinely checked for accuracy or veracity."

In fact, the GAO told a Senate Committee, "OMC rarely re-

COLUMNS 7&8

Peter Gabriel wins 9 music awards

LOS ANGELES (R) — Peter Gabriel, overshadowed by Steve Winwood and Paul Simon at this year's Grammy Awards, dominated the fourth annual Music Television (MTV) video music awards on Friday, winning nine of the 18 categories. On a night when the awards took a back seat to concert performances by David Bowie, Prince, Cyndi Lauper, Bryan Adams, Whitney Houston, Los Lobos, Madonna and the U.S. television premiere of English rockers Whitesnake, Gabriel was the common thread. Gabriel, an Englishman who co-founded the group Genesis, won for best video, male video, concept, overall performance, direction, special effects, art direction, editing and most experimental video on the strength of his ground-breaking animation in Sledgehammer. Only the Talking Heads, led by David Byrne, won more than one award in a nearly four-hour show broadcast live on the 24-hour Cable Television video network. They took top honours for best group video and best new video for a film, a new category that paid tribute to the strong influence of motion pictures on the music video market. Madonna won for best female video, Crowded House was named best new artist and Janet Jackson won for best choreography for Nasty. Gabriel had been nominated in 11 categories. Simon was nominated five times and Winwood six, but neither won. At the Grammys, Winwood won for song of the year with Higher Love and Simon for album of the year with Graceland.

Barber with mob ties shot in New York

NEW YORK (R) — A barber with links to organised crime was shot 10 times in the head by masked gunmen in what police said was New York's fourth gangland killing in seven days. Vito Scaglione, 36, was murdered on Thursday by three men who shot him as he sat alone watching television in his shop in a quiet neighbourhood in the borough of Queens. They said his jaw was shot off, possibly as a message to other criminals not to talk to investigators. Scaglione was a brother-in-law of Dominic Canale, a member of the Colombo crime organisation who was imprisoned in November 1986 on a federal racketeering conviction. Police said they were investigating the possibility of a connection between Scaglione's murder and his involvement in a fistfight a week ago with an associate of John Gotti, who is on trial accused of being a gangland mastermind. "He still has bruises on his body from the altercation," said Deputy Chief Joseph Borrelli. Queens detective commander. "We have the name of the person he had the dispute with. We may want to talk to Gotti." Scaglione's barber shop is about 14 blocks from Gotti's clubhouse, police said. Police said they believed at least seven and possibly 10 murders in New York this year have been mob-related. But they would not speculate about whether the killings were linked or whether there was a gangland war underway for control of the city's criminal activities.

Fishermen survive 9 days on 3 oranges

BILBAO, Spain (R) — Two Basque fishermen whose boat broke down at sea lived for nine days with no water and only three oranges to eat, they told a maritime radio station. Enrique Urganda and Juan Andres Elizondo said they burnt almost everything on board in an attempt to attract the attention of some 30 boats which passed nearby. Their boat, whose engine failed shortly after the pair set out on a fishing trip on Aug. 30, was finally spotted off northern Spain on Wednesday.

Lady Delamere buried in Kenya

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Lady Delamere was buried in Kenya, taking to the grave her 46-year-old silence about the mystery murder of an English earl whose death probably resulted from their scandalous love affair in colonial Kenya. Her body was flown to Kenya on Wednesday for a private funeral at a family burial plot outside Nairobi. She died at age 76 in Ascot on Sept. 3. "With her death, history has been robbed of the last witness to the events surrounding the murder of her lover, Lord Eroll," author James Fox wrote in a London newspaper. Sir Charles Markham, who had known her for 40 years, said: "I am delighted she did not live long enough to see herself portrayed on the big screen in White Mischief. I did not want her to go through that agony." White Mischief, the book written by Fox about the high-living group called the Happy Valley Set, is the basis of a film of the same name to premiere in Britain next February.

Irish population falling sharply

DUBLIN (R) — Ireland's population is falling sharply with couples marrying later and thousands still emigrating in search of jobs, according to an Irish census report published on Thursday. The number of children below the age of four in this country of 3.5 million people has dropped by 6.4 per cent over the last five years and that decline is expected to accelerate, a team of economic consultants reported. With Ireland's unemployment rate at almost 20 per cent, about 30,000 people emigrate every year, mainly to the United States, Britain and Australia. The report forecast that West Germany could also become a major destination for Irish emigrants. The report, based on the results of a 1986 census, showed the Irish population getting older, marrying later and no longer moving in such numbers to the capital, Dublin.

Miss Italy disqualified

ROME (R) — The final of the Miss Italy Beauty Competition is to be re-run after the original winner revealed she was in fact a married mother, organisers have said. Mirka Viola, 19, won the title last Saturday but acknowledged later that she had been married for 21 months and had a baby son. The rules of the contest state that competitors must be single and the runners-up to Viola have protested over her retaining the crown. Organisers said they were trying to contact the 24-member jury with a view to re-staging the contest some time in October.

Pretoria to tighten sex-offense laws

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — The government Thursday proposed sweeping changes to sex-offense laws that would raise fines tenfold, crack down on prostitution and allow husbands to be prosecuted for rape. One of the bills introduced in parliament calls for an overhaul of rape laws in accordance with recommendations from the South African Law Commission. "The existing immunity of the husband is archaic, unjust and unequal," the commission said. The proposed bill would restrict questioning of a rape victim about past sexual contacts with people other than the accused and would enable the victim to give testimony in private court sessions. The bill would eliminate a clause that says boys under age 14 cannot be prosecuted for rape.

Honecker sends lioness to his hometown

NEUNKIRCHEN, West Germany (AP) — East German leader Erich Honecker gave an aging, lonely lion in West Germany something to roar about when he sent his hometown zoo in Saarland state a young, healthy lioness. "Prince roared when he saw her. He's an old guy, and is thrilled to have got such a young lady," Zoo Director Helmut Reichling told the Associated Press, describing the lion's reaction. Mr. Honecker gave the zoo an exotic present. The lioness is an Indian lion, a much rarer breed than her African lion mate-to-be. There are only about 300 Indian lions left in the world, and about 100 of them live in zoos. Reichling said. Whether the 20-year-old Prince can still start a family is unclear. "At 12 to 15 years, lions are already senile," Reichling told the AP. Prince has been pining since he lost his former mate Claudia on May 13. Reichling said he wanted to start raising Indian lions. The four-year-old lioness initially will be kept in a separate cage where she can see and hear her intended mate, and will be gradually allowed contact with Prince. "We're handling her carefully so she can get used to her new surroundings," Reichling said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AQ85 ♣AQJ3 ♦AQJ85
Partner opens the bidding with four hearts. What action do you take?
- Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AQK72 ♥AK983 ♠A ♣93
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠
What action do you take?
- Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q5 ♥AJ893 ♦AKJ2 ♣J5
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
What action do you take?
- Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AQ ♥K4 ♦AKJ83 ♣9782
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one spade. What action do you take?
- Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AJ6 ♥K102 ♦AK107 ♣985
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass Pass 2 ♠
What action do you take?
- Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AQ10652 ♥AJ6 ♦AK83
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠ Pass
What action do you take?